



## In AIDS-Torn Africa, Desperate Choices

### UN Suggestion to Stop Breast-Feeding Leaves Mothers Confused and Alarmed

By Michael Specter  
New York Times Service

KAKULU, Uganda — This village is really just a muddy patch of ground in the tall trees near where the Nile flows out of Lake Victoria. The men work on coffee plantations. The women bear children, fetch water from the well about a kilometer away and cultivate cassava, potatoes and bananas.

There is no running water, no electricity, no telephone. When the long rains come each year, they wash out the dirt road for weeks at a time. This is — and has always been — a place where people who reach the age of 50 are old, and those who have seen a doctor or swallowed a pill are rare.

The basic rules of public health are clear in Kakulu: Only drink water from the well, not from the polluted Nile; and breastfeeding is the best way to nourish an infant.

At least those were the rules until a few weeks ago, when the United Nations, struggling desperately to find a way to cope with Africa's AIDS epidemic, took a giant step toward reversing them.

After long deliberation, UN AIDS officials announced that women infected with HIV should consider feeding formula instead of breast milk to their babies.

Even discussing such a fundamental shift in public health policy has been agonizing for people who once staged protests in the United States and Western Europe, warning that using infant formula in the Third World, where dirty water is often fatal, would kill thousands of children each year.

Switching to formula would affect the basic behavior of millions of women, and in theory at least, it makes sense. Three million children in Africa have died from AIDS since

the epidemic began, and last year alone there were more than 600,000 new cases among babies, many of whom received the virus from the milk in their mother's breast. Had they been drinking uncontaminated formula instead, or had their mothers taken a short course of AZT to protect them just before delivery, more than a third might have been saved.

But here, where theory quickly fades into the harsh reality of the jungle, the math never seems to add up the right way. In African villages there is no debate between breast and bottle and no talk of using a drug like AZT.

Instead, there has been a simple discussion about who will live and who will die. Scarce funds make drug treatments that have become routine in the United States almost impossible to contemplate here. So people infected with the virus die, and usually they die quickly. That makes prevention the only hope for this continent, where 30 million people have already been infected and 10 million have died.

Feeding formula to babies whose mothers have HIV could save tens of thousands of children each year. So could providing a short course of AZT, which prevents the AIDS virus from multiplying rapidly in cells, to a woman in her final stages of pregnancy. It may sound simple. But nothing about AIDS here ever is.

"I would never be able to feed my baby with formula," said Margaret Birungi Nannyongoi, a slightly overwhelmed 20-year-old woman who sat on the mud floor of her home, nursing her three-day-old child, Dorothy Nalule.

Dorothy is her third daughter. The first died and the second is a listless, underweight two-year-old with flat,

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## Clinton Keeps Out of Public Eye

### Focus Back on Lewinsky as Starr Checks President's Testimony

By Brian Knowlton  
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration lowered its profile Wednesday as it weighed reaction to the president's admission of an inappropriate relationship with Monica Lewinsky and anxiously awaited her second appearance before the grand jury on Thursday.

Mr. Clinton celebrated his 52d birthday quietly Wednesday on Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts. It was the first full day of a vacation on the resort island where he had flown the day before with his wife, Hillary, and his daughter, Chelsea.

Aides said the president had rejected their advice that he make a few public appearances Wednesday, saying he told them that his priority was to "get right with my family." A small birthday celebration was planned.

Administration officials were noticeably absent from the television interview shows, and most legislators, home for the congressional recess, had no new comment on the president's dramatic admission Monday or his surprisingly sharp attacks on the office of the special counsel, Kenneth Starr.

All were keenly aware that when Ms. Lewinsky returns before the grand jury, her testimony may help shape a report to Congress by Mr. Starr.

The independent counsel's staff was said to be examining Mr. Clinton's grand-jury testimony Monday line by line to determine whether he might have committed perjury. Mr. Starr is also looking for evidence of obstruction of justice or subordination of perjury.

Among the few leading figures who did speak out Wednesday, the House Republican whip, Tom DeLay of Texas, renewed a call for Mr. Clinton's resignation.

"This president has lost his moral authority in the world as well as at home," Mr. DeLay said on CNN. "The honorable thing to do is, Bill Clinton should resign."

But the call has been joined by only a handful of other Republicans, including former Vice President Dan Quayle, and a single Democratic congressman, Paul McHugh of Pennsylvania. And Mr. DeLay was at a loss to explain opinion polls showing that a strong majority of Americans, two-thirds or more, want the Lewinsky matter to end and Mr. Clinton to finish out his term.

Presidential supporters quietly took heart in those numbers. But the anger of many Republicans, and the strongly expressed disappointment of some Democrats — along with the imminence of Mr. Starr's report, expected shortly after the House reconvenes on

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### Clinton Wrote the Speech

- Mr. Clinton's words were his, but aides urged him to drop criticism of Mr. Starr. Page 6.
- What major politicians are saying in reaction to the president's speech. Page 6.
- Asians conclude that an insincere president disgraced himself. Page 7.



The Clintons arriving on the Massachusetts island of Martha's Vineyard for a 12-day vacation.

## FBI's Search for Blast Clues Focuses on Nairobi Hotel

By James C. McKinley Jr.  
New York Times Service

NAIROBI — A low-cost hotel in a run-down neighborhood of this capital has become a focus of the FBI investigation into the bombing at the U.S. Embassy in Kenya on Aug. 7.

On Tuesday morning, a dozen American agents supported by six Kenyan detectives sealed off the Hilltop Lodge, a three-story inn popular with Muslim businessmen, and for two hours they combed two rooms on the second floor for forensic evidence.

The agents dusted for fingerprints, searched

the rooms and seized the hotel's logbook and copies of bills before leaving, hotel employees said. The FBI also took the manager of the hotel, James Ng'ang'a, into custody for questioning. He was still being held Wednesday night, his family said.

On Wednesday afternoon, the investigators returned to the rooms to take pictures and make videotapes, a contractor at the hotel said.

U.S. law-enforcement officials declined to comment Wednesday on what they had found in the hotel or why it had been searched. "The investigation is proceeding in a logical manner, and no further comment will be made at this

time," FBI officials said in a written statement.

An unconfirmed report in The Nation newspaper, quoting anonymous police officials, claimed that a man arrested in Pakistan last week in connection with the bombing had told investigators the car bomb that destroyed the embassy was built in the two rooms.

The Nairobi blast killed 247 people and injured thousands. A simultaneous explosion outside the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, took another 10 lives.

The raid on the hotel came after FBI and local police interrogated Mohammed Sadiq Odeh,

34, who was flown to Kenya on Aug. 14, after

confessing to the Pakistani police that he had played a major role in planning the attack.

On the day of the bombings, he was arrested in Karachi on charges that he was carrying a forged passport, just after he arrived on a commercial flight from Nairobi.

The Nation report, which could not be verified, maintained that Mr. Odeh had told investigators that he and three accomplices had assembled the bomb at the hotel between Aug. 3 and Aug. 6.

Mr. Odeh has been linked to Osama bin

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## Ulster Town, Mourning, Scorns Cease-Fire Called by Bombers

By James F. Clarity  
New York Times Service

OMAGH, Northern Ireland — The grieving, angry people of this town in central Ulster scorned the news Wednesday that a cease-fire had been called by the Real IRA, the Roman Catholic splinter group that killed 28 people and injured 220 here on Saturday.

On Wednesday afternoon, on a bridge over the River Strule a few minutes' walk from

Market Street, people came to stare silently at several hundred bouquets and at British soldiers in battle dress holding automatic rifles at the ready, guarding the area.

Both Catholics and Protestants in this predominantly Catholic town were bitterly cynical about the cease-fire.

"Their warnings were false, so their cease-fire is false," said a 40-year-old man who declined to give his name for fear of terrorist reprisal.

"They'll carry out their next atrocity under some other name," he said. "I think the government should track them to the end of the time, then push them off — after they are brought here to see these flowers."

The Real IRA said on Tuesday afternoon that it had placed the bomb. It said, incredibly to most people here, that it had not intended to harm anyone, only to damage property in "our ongoing war against the Brits."

On Tuesday night, the Real IRA issued a

statement to a Belfast newspaper saying it was suspending its "military operations" while it considered "our future direction."

The Real IRA is thought to comprise about 100 dissidents from the Irish Republican Army. They broke with the IRA over the peace agreement that was approved in May by large margins in referendums in Northern Ireland and in the Irish Republic.

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## Airlines Jazz Up In-Flight Entertainment

By Laurence Zuckerman  
New York Times Service

Jon Fjeldstad recently boarded a Cathay Pacific Airways 747 for the 12-hour flight from Hong Kong to Vancouver. As he settled into his business-class seat facing a video screen that normally serves up a choice of eight movies, Mr. Fjeldstad was told that the system was working for other passengers but his was on the blink.

"It is almost better that you don't have it at all than that you have it and it doesn't work," he later said. "Especially if you see some people who have it working and yours isn't working."

Virtually all the world's top airlines now offer sophisticated systems that feature



a video screen at every seat and a choice of as many as 21 movies plus computer games, shopping and even gambling. But the systems are expensive to install — as much as \$4.5 million a plane — and notoriously unpredictable.

The airlines judge they have little choice but to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on them to attract and retain customers like Mr. Fjeldstad.

"Why are the airlines crazy enough to invest in technology that is never 100 percent reliable and extremely expensive?" asked Karl Laesner, the head of in-flight entertainment at Swissair, one

of the few airlines that feature systems that not only provide video choice but also allow viewers to control playback.

"If you want the image of being the world's best, you have to keep up."

Road warriors like Mr. Fjeldstad, 29, an international business consultant based in Minneapolis who flew 150,000 miles (240,000 kilometers) last year, consider many factors when they are deciding which airline to fly. Increasingly, they are thinking about which carrier has the best selection of movies and television programs to make their long flights more bearable.

A few years ago, passengers trying to while away long hours in the air were lucky to be able to see a single movie and to listen to some music. Now, 80 percent of the electronics on a new wide-body jet are in the passenger cabin, not the cockpit, and there are more lines of code in the entertainment software than in the programs flying the plane.

Airlines are expected to spend \$6 billion over the next five years to equip 4,800 planes with a new generation of systems that will deliver what vendors first promised five years ago: audio and video on demand, a system that enables passengers to start, stop, rewind and fast-forward any one of scores of films or television programs at will.

Industry executives predict that by early in the next decade, the systems

### Neighbors Promise Congo Aid As Rebels Close In on Capital

The government of Zimbabwe said it was sending aircraft, weapons and other support for the embattled Congolese government of President Laurent Kabila as rebels approached the capital Wednesday.

Mr. Kabila also won pledges of military support from Kenya and Angola against the two-week rebellion, led by ethnic Tutsi from eastern Congo and reportedly backed by Rwanda and Uganda. It was the first fruit of Mr. Kabila's intense diplomatic efforts to secure outside support. Page 2.

### Russia: From Hero to Pariah

Only a few years ago, the post-Communist Russian financial officials found themselves courted in the international credit markets. What a difference just a few years can make. Moscow's niche devaluation and moratorium Monday on debt repayments has darkened the outlook for any new loans to Russia. Page 11.

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The IHT on-line www.iht.com

### The Dollar

New York Wednesday 9:45 P.M. previous close

Dollar 1.7861 1.8018

Yen 144.005 144.85

FF 6.0265 6.039

Pound 1.823 1.8166

Dollars per pound

### The Dow

Wednesday close percent change

—21.37 8,693.28 —0.25%

S&P 500

—3.14 1,098.06 —0.29%

Nasdaq

—12.43 1,842.69 —0.67%

The IHT on-line www.iht.com

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## Sex, Ties, Videotape: Did President Send Her a Signal on TV?

By Don Van Natta Jr. and James Bennett  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — When President Bill Clinton strode into the White House Rose Garden on Aug. 6, his jazzy gold and navy necktie stood out sharply against his white shirt and sent a jolt through certain lawyers around town.

They were not clotheshorses struck by a rare Washington fashion statement. They were prosecutors in the office of the independent counsel Kenneth Starr, wondering whether Mr. Clinton might have dressed to obstruct justice — by sending a secret signal to Monica Lewinsky as she testified before the grand jury.

Ms. Lewinsky, the former intern at the center of the investigation into sex and lies at the White House, had said during her depositions with prosecutors in recent weeks that she had given Mr. Clinton the Ermengildo Zegna tie on his 50th birthday, in August 1996.

According to what Ms. Lewinsky told a friend, Ms. Lewinsky told the president that because they would not be able to meet every day, "when I see you wearing this tie I'll know that I am close to your heart."

On the day of her testimony, Mr. Clinton was inveigling against handguns in a televised ceremony. Prosecutors apparently wondered, Was the tie a sign, a plea for solidarity?

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Newstand Prices		
Bahrain	1.00 BD Mata	.55 c
Cyprus	C £ 1.00 Nigeria	1.200 Naira
Denmark	14.00 DKR Oman	1.250 OR
Finland	12.00 FM Qatar	10.00 QR
Gibraltar	£ 0.	

## TV Plans for Pope's Death / Where Will Dan Rather Stand?

## Wanted: Vantage Points for a Puff of Smoke

By Alessandra Stanley  
New York Times Service

**R**OME — Death, unlike taxes, is still certain in Italy. Even popes must someday die. And when the pope is as towering a figure as John Paul II, there is one other certainty: Every major television news organization will someday need a room with a view.

More precisely, American networks will need a large terrace with a good view of St. Peter's Basilica. CBS News recently outbid rivals and signed a contract with the owner of the Atlante Star hotel for exclusive use of its 450-square-foot (5,000-square-foot) terrace overlooking the Vatican for live stand-ups by its anchor, Dan Rather, and others.

The timing, obviously, is unknown. The price, says the owner, Benito Mencucci, is about \$180,000 for however long the news event lasts. The fee also covers use of the terrace during the year 2000 Jubilee. CBS News officials said the figure was incorrect, but declined to give a precise one.

"I am relieved it's over," Mr. Mencucci said of the drawn-out negotiations. "It was all very embarrassing. For the past year and a half, not a day went by without some TV person calling about the terrace. First the Japanese, then the Germans, then the Americans."

He said he felt a special bond to the Pope, whom he met at a papal audience two years ago. "But we had to reach a decision," he said. "Unfortunately, death is inevitable for all of us."

Vatican officials view such talk as disrespectful to the 79-year-old pontiff, who, despite reports that he is suffering from Parkinson's disease, nevertheless keeps up an astonishingly full and vigorous schedule.

"It is never great to talk about death," said a spokesman, the Reverend Ciro Benedettini. "I understand the exigencies of news reporters, but it is not a very pleasant subject for those of us who work with His Holiness."

When dealing with the Holy See, television producers politely refer to their contingency plans as preparation for the millennium — which the Pope has made clear he has every intention of celebrating.

But his health could fail before 2000. Network executives say that they cannot afford to neglect preparing for so momentous an event.

"When it happens, it will be a huge story affecting millions and millions of people," said John Paxson, the London bureau chief of CBS News, who is coordinating contingency Vatican coverage. "Your ability to pre-organize has a lot to do with how well you cover the story."



Francesca Mecucci, left, and her sister Roberta enjoying the view of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome from the terrace of Hotel Atlante Star. CBS News has paid for the rights to use that view for its coverage of the 2000 Holy City jubilee — and the death of Pope John Paul II.



Gary Hershorn/Reuters

As the unexpected and relentlessly broadcast funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, most recently revealed, television coverage has changed enormously since John Paul II was elected in 1978.

Then, the United States had only three networks, and little live coverage. Modern technology now allows even small stations and network affiliates to cover events as they happen in many parts of the world. In addition to CNN, many networks also have 24-hour cable news shows.

Cardinals from 62 countries will be among the contenders to replace John Paul II, and virtually all of those countries will want their own networks to cover the conclave. The American networks have been seeking positions that allow them to film the white smoke drifting out of the Sistine Chapel that signals that a new pope has been elected.

Discretely, but feverishly, American, British, Japanese and many other broadcasters have been wheeling and dealing and wining and dining in search for an edge on the competition — staking out camera positions, plotting feature pieces, signing up expert commentators and making the right friends in high places.

NBC News, for example, hired as its Rome producer the son of the Vatican official who is the gatekeeper for

all photography and electronic media. ABC News has reportedly won exclusive rights to the Hilton, perched on a hill that overlooks Vatican City, though neither the network nor the hotel management would confirm it.

CNN producers also declined to reveal their planned location. Rome is awash with rumors that the Atlanta-based news organization is negotiating an arrangement to work out of a church-owned property with an excellent view of the Vatican.

"The best locations are the private houses, but most of them are owned by the Vatican," one network producer in Rome said. "But as long as the Pope is alive, the Vatican is not going to countenance any deals between foreign barbarians and themselves."

The Italian press, however, is fascinated by foreign barbarians.

The Roman daily newspaper *Il Messaggero* headlined a recent article about the terrace wars with the words, "The Pope: Heaven Can Wait, the Networks Cannot."

Many other countries take a pragmatic view of preparing for the death of national figures. The BBC, for example, conducts technical rehearsals of its coverage of the Queen Mother's funeral every six weeks. But in desperation Italy so blunt an approach is considered by many as bad luck or bad form.

"It is so indecent to write about such things," said Walter Cantini, manager of the Hotel Columbus, three short blocks from the Vatican, which owns the hotel.

Mr. Cantini pointed out that his hotel, on Via delle Conciliazioni, has no terrace, but he said that he would not allow any advance negotiations for its use even if it did.

"Nobody at our hotel is hoping to profit from such an event," he said indignantly.

**Y**ET EVEN the Vatican has quietly undertaken some advance preparations. In past conclaves, the 100 or so cardinals were jammed into makeshift and uncomfortable quarters scattered across the Apostolic Palace. Next time, they will reside inside the Vatican walls in the recently completed, modern St. Martha's Residence, several hundred yards from the Sistine Chapel, where the deliberations take place.

Media accommodations are more difficult to plan, and that is one reason most television producers seem to be praying for the Pope to live well into the 21st century. The Vatican is converting dozens of church buildings into hostels in anticipation of the jubilee, when millions of pilgrims are planning to visit the Holy City. But the buildings won't be ready much before 1999.

## Kabila Secures Pledges Of Foreign Military Aid As Rebels Near Capital

By Nori Onishi  
New York Times Service

**KINSHASA**, Congo — As the rebels trying to topple Laurent Kabila from power rapidly closed in on the capital Wednesday, the Congolese president scrambled to secure foreign military support to repel a final assault.

The government of Zimbabwe said it was immediately sending aircraft, weapons and other support for the embattled Congolese government.

On a day that exposed existing and emerging rivalries in the region, Mr. Kabila also won pledges of military support from Kenya and Angola against the two-week rebellion led by ethnic Tutsi from eastern Congo, and reportedly backed by Rwanda and Uganda.

The announcement was the first real fruit of intense efforts by Mr. Kabila, who has become known for his lack of diplomatic skills, to obtain outside support for his weakened and disorganized army. It followed contradictory statements made by governments whose support he had sought.

After a two-day meeting in Harare of defense ministers from the 14-nation Southern African Development Community, the region's main political and economic organization, Zimbabwe announced that the group would supply arms and men to Mr. Kabila's forces.

"We are going to respond positively in a manner that will help the government of President Kabila to restore peace and stability," Robert Mugabe, the president of Zimbabwe, said. In a separate statement, Mr. Mugabe's defense minister, Moven Mahachi, told the BBC that Zimbabwe would immediately begin sending airplanes and other assistance to the Congo.

Later Wednesday, the mounting regional support for Mr. Kabila brought about a seeming concession from rebel leaders, who told journalists at a news conference in the eastern Congolese city of Goma that the rebellion would consider negotiations with the government. Hitherto, talks with Mr. Kabila had been ruled out.

But, in a statement that revealed a rift in the regional organization, South Africa, the head of the regional group and a sometimes diplomatic rival of Zimbabwe, declared Wednesday that assistance would not happen yet.

"Our attitude is clear," said Nelson Mandela, the South African president. "We are not going to make the situation worse by sending a military force. We are for peace."

The rebels control the eastern swath of the Congo and much of the territory southwest of Kinshasa, a critical region for transportation and power to the cap-

ital. It was unclear Wednesday night how significant the help from individual countries would be and whether it would arrive soon enough to stop the rebels, who tore through military defense lines southwest of here and deepened the disarray among government officials.

The depth of confusion in Mr. Kabila's government was underscored by a senior official who, in a private briefing with reporters, initially tried to present a less bleak picture of the situation and then, with little prodding, began using the past tense to assess Mr. Kabila's legacy.

Pointing at a map of the country bearing its former name of Zaire, the official at first said that the government defense line lay in the city of Songolo, about 130 miles (210 kilometers) southwest of here; then, after moving his finger eastward about five times, he agreed that the line was most likely in Kisantu, a mere 75 miles from this city.

"It's a funny kind of war," he said, finally. He added, "If Kinshasa falls, it's absolutely the end." The official said he was pessimistic about the possibility that Mr. Kabila could effectively continue the war from his southern redoubt of Lubumbashi, where he was staying.

The fact that the government desperately lacks military resources also arose indirectly during a television interview that Didier Mumengi, the information minister, held Tuesday night with some usually friendly local reporters. Mr. Mumengi said that the government had been dropping bombs on rebel areas in the southwest when one of the reporters innocently asked: "But Mr. Minister, we don't have an air force."

In this two-week civil war, government officials have used the local newspapers and television stations to present a rosy, and often misleading, picture of the military situation to the 5 million residents of Kinshasa. The propaganda has worked well, especially in fueling nationalist sentiments among the Congolese who openly express hatred of the ethnic Tutsi from eastern Congo and the Rwandan Tutsi, the two groups leading the rebellion.

But it was safe to conclude that the message in Mr. Mumengi's television interview failed to reach the ears of the city's residents. On Monday, the rebels recaptured the huge Inga hydroelectric dam in Inga, about 200 miles from here, on the Congo River; they shut off the power supply to this region, leaving Kinshasa and Brazzaville, in the Congo Republic across the river, in the dark.

The lack of power added to the city's edge. Gunfire could be heard throughout the night.

## UN Envoy Fails to Shift Iraq Stance

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

**BAGHDAD** — The United Nations special envoy to Iraq left Baghdad on Wednesday for New York after failing to get the Iraqis to rescind a decision halting cooperation with UN weapons inspectors.

Prakash Shah, special envoy of UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, said the standoff between Iraq and the inspectors could still be solved through dialogue, though the Baghdad government was standing by its decision to suspend cooperation with the arms inspectors, announced on Aug. 5. "I still think that lots of discussions and bilateral negotiations can take place," Mr. Shah said before leaving Baghdad.

Baghdad has repeatedly accused UNSCOM and its chairman of being guided by the United States to prolong the disarmament process, which must be completed by

fore the council can lift the sanctions.

On Tuesday, the Security Council sent letters to the UN agencies in charge of weapons and nuclear inspections backing their mandates from New York to Geneva or Vienna, to reduce what is U.S. influence over them. Iraq also wants an end to the sweeping UN sanctions imposed on it after the invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

Asked about the tense situation between Iraq and the United Nations, Mr. Shah said: "I wouldn't say it is a crisis."

"I don't think that anyone in the council has suggested that we have reached a point at which consideration of severest consequences would be necessary," he said.

The state-run newspaper Al Iraq on Wednesday accused Richard Butler, the chief UN weapons inspector, of spying on Iraq for the United States.

The Baghdad government says all its weapons of mass destruction have been accounted for and that sanctions, including a ban on oil and oil sales, should have been lifted long ago. Mr. Butler says there are still gaps in UNSCOM's knowledge, especially about Iraq's biological weapons program. Mr. Annan appointed Mr. Shah to improve communication between him and the Iraqi government shortly after the secretary-general defused the last major standoff in February.

She paid the amount demanded by the driver but became suspicious and reported the incident to the police, identifying the driver from photographs.

## TRAVEL UPDATE

## Athens Police Arrest Taxi Gouger

**ATHENS (AP)** — The police here arrested a taxi driver Wednesday for having allegedly charged an Australian tourist more than 25 times the normal price for a ride from the airport, the authorities reported.

Giorgos Mitsis, the driver, confessed to charging Kelly Jane Smith, 23, a total of 38,500 drachmas (\$127) for a trip that should have cost no more than 1,500 drachmas for the short ride, the police said.

She paid the amount demanded by the driver but became suspicious and reported the incident to the police, identifying the driver from photographs.

## Northwest Sparks Airfare Increases

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Only days after Northwest Airlines blocked its rivals' attempts to raise leisure-trip fares, the company increased advance purchase fares 4 percent, spurring matching increases from other carriers.

Northwest raised its 14-day and 21-day advance purchase and sale fares Monday night, according to a Northwest spokesman, Jon Austin.

The move came as Northwest continued contract negotiations with the Air Line Pilots Association as an Aug. 28 strike deadline drew nearer. Northwest also is in contract negotiations with its other five unions.

## WEATHER



## In this Friday's

## Leisure

## The Car Column

## Arabs Cite Home Razings

Reuters

**HEBRON**, West Bank — Israeli authorities demolished 12 Palestinian houses that were home to about 100 people in and near this town on Wednesday, witnesses to the destruction reported.

Israeli officials were not immediately available for comment.

In previous cases of home demolitions, the Israeli authorities have cited a lack of building permits as the main reason for the action.

Human rights groups have accused Israel of using bureaucratic and legal pretenses for decades to delay Arabs building permits, while at the same time encouraging the expansion of Jewish settlements.

Eight of the houses demolished on Wednesday were in the Israeli-occupied Samou village, near Hebron, while the others were in Israeli-controlled parts of the town itself.

Yousef Aref Daghamene, 25, who had lived in one of the houses, was the source of the information that about 100 Palestinians were displaced by the demolitions.

Outside one of the houses, Palestinians scuffled with Israeli soldiers. Two women were slightly injured, Arabs said.

Mazda MX 5

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FRANCE	175	175	0	60
GERMANY	152	152	0	50
HONG KONG	37	22	40	50
INDIA	115	115	0	50
ITALY	145	145	0	50
JAPAN	145,269	52,056	60	60
MALAYSIA	145	145	0	50
NETHERLANDS	195	72	60	50
NEW ZEALAND	305	160	50	55
SINGAPORE	155	55	65	50
SPAIN	11,000	5,000	52	50
SWEDEN	575	350	55	50
SWITZERLAND	145	55	60	50
U.S.A.	5	3	50	50

## THE AMERICAS

## Flights of Fancy: Middle-Aged Pilots Play Top Gun With Soviet-Era Jets

By Tracie Rozhon  
New York Times Service

LOCK HAVEN, Pennsylvania — With the Bald Eagle Ridge looming behind his baseball cap, Lee Gilbert, a bespectacled 55-year-old in a T-shirt and baggy khaki pants, drove his little red lawn tractor past farm buildings into a corrugated steel hangar and rolled out a mean-looking Czech L-39.

A surplus fighter jet painted in camouflage colors, it was emblazoned with warnings in Russian and stenciled pictures of ejector seats — and proudly bore the restored red star of the Soviet Union on its tail.

Minutes later, he piloted the roaring fighter up over the mountains and began a series of breathtaking rolls, dips and dives: 3,000 feet (920 meters) down in five seconds to a height he jokingly called "normal strafing altitude."

Mr. Gilbert, who made his money selling foam insulation, owns his own hangar and five airplanes. But the fighter jet is the only one that lifts off at 180 mph (290 kph), which, as he puts it, "makes your hair stand on end."

Since the end of the Cold War, more and more Americans have been rushing to buy surplus Russian MiGs, Czech L-39s, Polish Istriks and Yugoslav Sokos as private playthings.

Starting with a handful of planes, the fad has caught on, and now there are hundreds of fighter jets owned by civilians. The Classic Jet Airplane Association lists 423 on its rolls. That is a minuscule percentage of the country's 186,000 private planes, but in 1989, when the group was formed, there were

10 in the country.

In 1993, the Federal Aviation Administration, unprepared for the growing number of surplus military jets coming in from former Soviet bloc countries, stopped issuing the permits that let them fly here, a moratorium that lasted two years.

Now, fighter jets owned by civilians are allowed in the United States but with a passel of rules: no flying more than 600 miles from home without the aviation agency's permission, at least 1,000 hours of flight time, regular maintenance and agency inspections — and no live guns.

These military jets, which often sport real, but nonfunctioning, guns, are not just owned by former navy and air force pilots. Dr. W.B. Johnson, a cardiologist from Missouri who owns a Yugoslav Soko Galeb G2A and flew it to the Oshkosh Airshow in Wisconsin earlier this month, said perhaps half are owned by "ordinary guys" who pay an average of \$30,000 to \$400,000 for the fighters. At L-39 like Mr. Gilbert's costs about \$325,000.

Most of the owners are businessmen, said Dr. Johnson, a burly man wearing a dark green cotton zippered flight suit with an embroidered Soko patch sewn on his sleeve. "There's all kinds. There's a fellow who built a business in janitorial services in Utah; others who distribute widgets and make odd things. Then there's a few physicians, a few lawyers," he said. One is a Harley-Davidson dealer from Savannah, Georgia.

Esper Petersen, 48, a building contractor from Chicago with no military

flying experience, termed his fellow jet owners "a pretty interesting group of overachievers; they're usually pretty well-off and, at our get-togethers, you get a bunch of bosses, everybody bossing everybody else around."

When they're not running their businesses, these middle-aged men — their average age is about 55 and no one can name any women who are jet owners — like to fly high, fast and noisy. While the newest MiG-29s, only slightly used, fly at two and a half times the speed of sound, the older jets, flown in Vietnam, Afghanistan and Czechoslovakia, fly close to the speed of sound.

That's close enough for a thrill, especially in a stripped-down military cockpit peering over a gun sight, doing a triple roll.

These guys have fun. Mr. Petersen, a bachelor, said flying the jets is "better than anything — except sex."

Allen Smith, vice president of a pharmaceuticals company who owns another L-39, disagrees. "He's wrong — he hasn't flown enough — it's better than sex."

Ron Whitt, a shampoo bottler who just bought his L-39 last Thursday, said he bought it to "crank and bank" — and to advertise: He'll paint the sides with the name of a new product, Race Glaze, and fly the jet to airshows.

Some of the pilots say they see the two-seater jets, used as trainers for the various Soviet forces, as a way to educate the young about flying.

As Ian Johnson, the doctor's 21-year-old son and an aspiring jet pilot, said:

"We grew up with jets."

The public may not understand that the sight of a fighter jet bearing red stars and Russian words does not exactly make the Pentagon tremble.

Real military jets carry a "friend or foe" warning system that has been disabled in the surplus jets, said Jack Harrington, an aviation lawyer who is also president of the Warbirds of America, a group dedicated to the preservation of fighting aircraft. In addition, the jets file flight plans and maintain routine contact with air controllers.

"The airplane community knows

Because of it, they are often flown to airshows aboard cargo aircraft.

There the pilots all seem to know each other, standing in groups on the tarmac near their planes, laughing. About 20 of the jets — most with their Russian markings intact — showed up in Oshkosh.

The most fun for the pilots may well be the mock dogfights they get into on

weekends.

"When I first got my fighter jet, I headed up to the Wisconsin border," Mr. Petersen said. "There's a lot of P-51s up there, and I went after them. We got into a dogfight and they shot me down." Not to worry. "Oh,

our really shot down — I have a gun sight hooked to a camera — I get 'em in the cross hairs and snap a picture, for proof."

Although they don't come with fax machine ports, microwave ovens and CD players the way the new corporate jets do, the military jets offer the following advantage (depending, of course, on how you look at it): In the corporate jets, you can't feel the enormous pull of gravity that make most earthlings very, very sick to their stomachs.

In the MiGs and Sokos, the pilot-owners revel in the fact they can take up to 8 G's — a gravitational force equal to eight times one's body weight.

With the collapse of the Soviet Union, its former republics "were desperate for cold, hard cash," said Doog Schultz, a fighter pilot and jet owner who recently tried — and failed — to bring some of the newest surplus planes into this country.

try. Mr. Schultz, who said he ran into "political cobwebs and dead-ends," bought his planes from an importer in Burlington, Vermont.

The U.S. government does not sell its surplus fighter jets to its citizens: They chop them up, said Carol Simpson, a spokeswoman for the Defense Department's Reutilization and Marketing Service. To find one — and there are some — you would have to buy them from another country or from a dealer who did.

To find a fighter jet these days — from any country — Mr. Schultz said, potential top gunners might subscribe to Trade-A-Plane, a yellow-page classified paper that comes out three times a month (\$800-337-5263; \$42 a year).

Generally, the importers pay about half of the retail price of the plane, or even less. But they have to pay the duty, reassemble the pieces (it's taken apart for shipping), and remove any obsolete navigation equipment. They may also paint it — although some of the owners prefer, if faded, Soviet markings and decals.

When they decided to call a halt to jet imports in 1993, the Federal Aviation Agency was "worried a lot of millionaire playboys would be hurling themselves around and falling into schoolyards," said Mr. Schultz. Both the pilots and federal officials say that has not happened with the former Soviet aircraft.

"These guys treat them the way they do classic cars," said Terry Allen, of the agency's certification service in Washington. "They preserve them; they practically worship them."

## AMERICAN TOPICS

## Beheaded' Mount St. Helen's Now a Major U.S. Tourist Site

Eighteen years after a cataclysmic eruption that beheaded Mount St. Helens, knocking 1,300 feet (400 meters) off its top, the volcano in the state of Washington has calmed down enough to become one of the most popular tourist destinations.

Fifty-seven people died in the spectacular May 18, 1980, eruption. The bulging north flank of the mountain collapsed, creating a huge landslide that swept through a lake, pushing up a wall of water estimated at 600 to 800 feet high. The explosion vented searing gases, which, mixed with ash and pulverized rock, leveled everything for miles. Twenty-seven bridges and 200 houses were damaged or destroyed.

Now, those awesome memories, coupled with a spectacular view that includes Mount Rainier to the north, draw 3 million to 4 million visitors a year. Mount St. Helens has become the most climbed volcano in North America, with 13,000 people a year hiking to its rim, second in the world only to Mount Fuji in Japan.

It holds that distinction despite the allowed quota of only 100 hikers per day, and despite an increase in earthquakes rumbling through its flanks. Such quakes have increased from 60 a month last winter to more than 450 in July.

Scientists say, however, that no catastrophic explosion is imminent.

Hikers who make it to the top of what the Cowlitz Indians named "Las-We-Lat-Klab" or "Person From Whom Smoke Comes," say the effort is worth it. "I never thought I'd make it," Ted Dixon of Michigan, perched atop the rim, told a San Francisco Examiner reporter. "If I had one day left to live, this would be the place I would want to be."

## Short Takes

Some Montana ranchers, tired of los-

ing lambs to marauding coyotes, have found a novel solution — the llama. While dogs remain the most common guard animals, and ranchers have experimented with donkeys, kangaroos and ostriches, the llama appears to be a natural. Long trained as pack animals, they are highly territorial. Ranchers place them in the pasture with sheep, and nature does the rest: If a coyote enters the pasture, the llama herds the sheep together, stands between meal and predator, and scares the coyote off. "They don't take any special training," Linda Stewart, a sheep rancher, told The Bozeman Daily Chronicle. "They just are naturally curious, and with virtually anything that enters the pasture, he's right there checking it out. It drives coyotes nuts."

A guard llama, which typically costs \$800 to \$1,000, is also seen as an ecologically correct choice, preferable to the use of poison or traps.

Experiments in Texas with another exotic animal, the emu, have proven less successful. Hundreds of farmers and ranchers began raising the ostrich-like bird for its meat in the 1980s and early 1990s. Then the bottom dropped out of the market. In 1993, emu chicks, which had been selling for as high as \$3,000 a half-dozen, brought only 15 cents. Some farmers, cutting their losses, let loose hundreds of the flightless creatures. Since then, emu sightings have become Texas's answer to Bigfoot; some Texans have been injured in encounters with high-kicking emos.

Traffic circles may be old hat in parts of Europe, but Americans cannot seem to catch on. Massachusetts and New Jersey have "roundabouts" but have stopped building them amid complaints from drivers. Maryland is still building them — traffic engineers say they cost less than traffic signals to maintain, force drivers to lower speed and reduce the severity of accidents — but drivers remain leery.

"I don't like it," Mary Talbot told The Baltimore Sun. "People are used to squares," meaning right-angle intersections. "They don't know anything about circles."

Brian Knowlton

## Mexico Police Get Their Man

## Manhunt Sought Kidnapper Who Cut Off Victims' Ears

By Anthony DePalma  
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — A nine-month manhunt has ended with the capture of a brazen and violent kidnapper who used scissors to cut off his victims' ears and who had said he would never be captured alive, the authorities announced Tuesday.

Attorney General Jorge Madrazo said Tuesday that a group of federal and state police officers had used legal wiretaps and information gained from plain-bargain with jailed gang members to capture the fugitive, Daniel Arizmendi Lopez.

The officials said Mr. Arizmendi had carried out at least 18 kidnappings since 1996, often with the help of current and former police officials.

Mr. Arizmendi, 40, con-

fessed to four murders Tuesday, officials said.

He was caught here Monday when he arrived at a meeting of associates, where the police were waiting for him, said the attorney general of the State of Mexico, Jorge Reyes Santana. Mr. Arizmendi pulled up in a Volkswagen, alone, and offered no resistance, Mr. Reyes Santana said.

The authorities said 16 other people, including 6 youths, had also been arrested in connection with the kidnappings.

The authorities said Mr. Arizmendi's operations were complicated, involving up to 12 members of his organization. They stopped a potential victim's car by blocking its way with up to three trucks, crashing into security vehicles that executives sometimes use for protection and shooting



Daniel Arizmendi Lopez after his arrest in Mexico.

## Aline Mosby, a Trailblazing Reporter, Dies at 76

New York Times Service

Aline Mosby, 76, a former correspondent for United Press International who reported from Hollywood, Paris, Beijing and points between for more than 50 years, died Aug. 7 in Escondido, California.

She moved from Paris to a retirement community in California this year.

The cause of death was a cerebral hemorrhage, The Associated Press reported from San Diego.

Mrs. Mosby, a native of Missoula, Montana, and a graduate of the University of Montana, joined United Press, the forerunner of UPI, in Seattle in 1943. She retired from the agency in 1984 but continued to write free-lance articles.

She is believed to have been the first woman assigned by a major news agency to cover the Kremlin and, later, Beijing.

While she was stationed in Moscow in 1959, she interviewed a self-exiled Lee Harvey Oswald, who described his upbringing and his embrace of Marx's socialism. She

also interviewed Gary Powers, the downed U-2 pilot.

Mrs. Mosby recounted tales of her work in Moscow in "The View From No. 13 People's Street" (Random House, 1962).

One report quoted a United Press historian, Dick Harrington, who remembered, "On one occasion Miss Mosby was invited to meet two Russians at a restaurant. The Russians, who were KGB, put a 'mickey' in her drink. She stumbled out into the street and into a ditch, where a KGB photographer was waiting to take her picture, probably in order to get her expelled."

But the expulsion was averted by news agency officials.

Earlier in her career, she reported Hollywood gossip. Her Hollywood column was credited with helping to propel Marilyn Monroe to stardom.

Dorothy West, 91, of Harlem Renaissance

New York Times Service

Dorothy West, 91, "the Kid" of the Harlem Renaissance circle of writers and artists in the 1920s who was rediscovered seven decades

"The Living Is Easy," was not published until 1948, when the Harlem Renaissance had long faded. Her second, "The Wedding," about the aspirations and anxieties of black people living on Martha's Vineyard, appeared in 1995.

Mrs. West's stories and novels used brisk narratives an eye for detail and wit to explore the aspirations of well-to-do blacks and the interplay of race, class and intraracial tensions in America. Her work was not overtly political, tending to more lyrical depictions of vanity, longing, love and misunderstanding.

Critics praised her storytelling and her pioneering descriptions of conflict within the black middle class.

Otto Wichterle, 84, Inventor of Soft Lenses

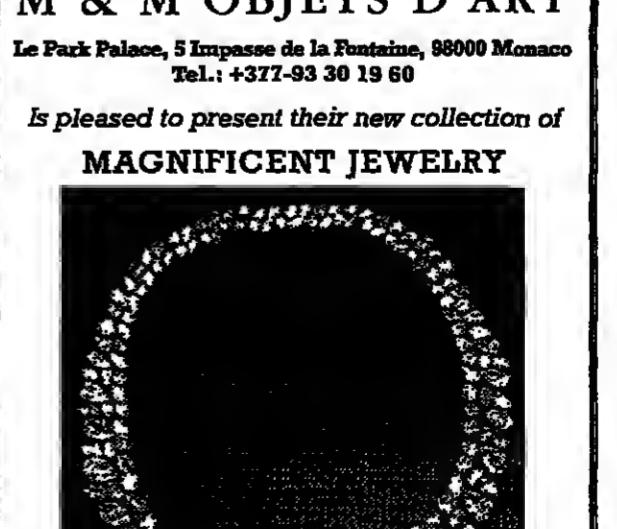
New York Times Service

Otto Wichterle, 84, a Czechoslovak chemist who in

1961 used an Erector set and a photograph to produce the world's first soft contact lenses, died Tuesday at his summer home in Sradisko, a Moravian village in the Czech Republic.

The consequences of his kitche-table experimentation changed the way millions of people see and look.

"Before his discovery, there were, of course, contact lenses," said Dr. Dwight Cavanaugh, a professor of ophthalmology at the University of Texas Southwest Medical Center at Dallas. "But they were made of glass or hard plastic. They were difficult to make and to fit and probably no more than 10,000 or 20,000 were being used. As a result of what Dr. Wichterle achieved, a billion-dollar industry came into being. Today there are about 30 million people in the United States and 100 million people around the world who use soft lenses."

Monte Carlo - Hotel de Paris  
20-21-22-23 August  
starting at 6 p.m. at the Salon BerliozBy Steven A. Holmes  
New York Times Service

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina

Three years ago, Nancy Wright was struggling to hold body and soul and two sons together on the \$237 she received in her monthly welfare check supplemented by \$187 worth of food stamps.

These days, Ms. Wright, 35, is earning almost \$1,400 a month as a supervisor at a fiberglass plant. Though hardly affluent, she has bought a car, and she just returned with her sons from a weeklong vacation in New York and Atlantic City, New Jersey — the first time she had left North Carolina.

"I'm able to buy them clothes and school supplies," she said, racking off the benefits of her newfound prosperity. "I can take them out to get something to eat or go to the movies. I've accomplished a whole lot since I started working."

Ms. Wright's brightening fortunes are part of a little-noticed phenomenon among single black female heads of households. Long at the bottom of the American economic scale, these women have seen their incomes rise sharply in recent years, pushed by a strong economy, a tight labor market, increases in the minimum wage, more stringent welfare eligibility requirements and government training programs.

In 1996, the latest year for which complete Census Bureau data are available, the median income for this group was \$15,530, a jump of more than 21 percent in inflation-adjusted dollars from the \$12,765 the women brought home in 1993.

Labor Department figures for single black female heads of families, a slightly different category

## ASIA/PACIFIC

## UN Criticizes Malaysia on Suits Against Law Monitor

By Barbara Crossette  
New York Times Service

**UNITED NATIONS, New York** — A dispute between Malaysia and the United Nations is casting light on how the Malaysian legal system is used to stifle criticism, in this case by business interests.

The secretary-general says that a UN human rights monitor, who is a Malaysian, should be able to do his job free of legal repercussions, but that Malaysia has failed to assert his immunity before Malaysian courts, where he is facing lawsuits.

Malaysia, which is expected to win a seat on the Security Council this fall, says it wants to cooperate in ending the impasse. The government has not objected to a recent decision by the UN Economic and Social Council to refer the case to the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

Hasmy Agam, Malaysia's representative at the United Nations, told the Economic and Social Council in July that his delegation had "deep regrets" over the confrontation.

Malaysia has had an uneasy relationship with human rights bodies, whether national or international.

At the center of the case is Param Cumaraswamy, a well-known Malaysian lawyer appointed in 1994 to be the UN Human Rights Commission's special rapporteur, or monitor, on the independence of judges and lawyers internationally.

In November 1995, Mr. Cumaraswamy said in an interview with a London publication, International Commercial Litigation, that he had received complaints that powerful corporations were influencing judicial decisions in Malaysia.

Mr. Cumaraswamy was quoted in the article, which also encompassed interviews with numerous experts on Malaysian law and business practice, as saying that a particular case under review looked like "a very obvious, perhaps even glaring example of judge-choosing." But he added that he had not finished his investigations.

Four defamation suits were subsequently filed against him by Malaysian companies in Malaysian courts, seeking a total of about \$80 million in damages.

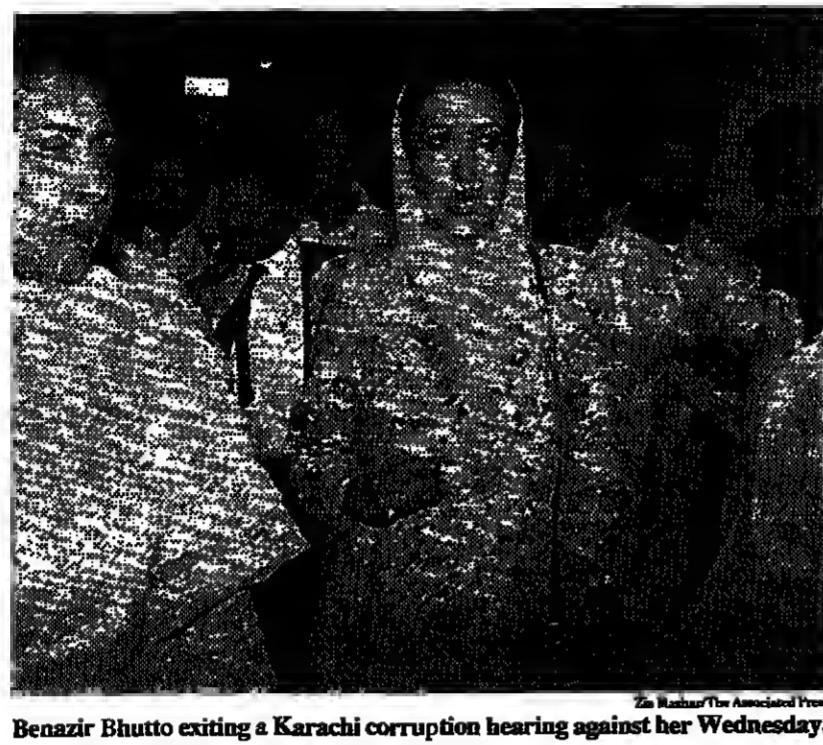
Although action on the cases has been stayed until September, Mr. Cumaraswamy was told on Aug. 1 that he would be billed more than \$200,000 in court costs, according to a message on Aug. 3 from Kofi Annan, the secretary-general, to the Economic and Social Council.

In Malaysia, there are close links between the governing party, the United Malays National Organization, and businesses, some of which are owned or partly owned by the party.

Early this year, Mr. Annan appointed a Canadian expert, Yves Fortier, as a special envoy to handle Mr. Cumaraswamy's case, for which the United Nations may be financially liable.

Two trips to Kuala Lumpur convinced Mr. Fortier "that the government of Malaysia was not going to participate either in settling this matter or in preparing a submission to the current session of the Economic and Social Council," a report from the secretary-general said on July 28.

The Economic and Social Council voted last week to ask the World Court for an opinion.



Zia Murtaza/Associated Press  
Benazir Bhutto exiting a Karachi corruption hearing against her Wednesday.

## Bhutto Indictment Urged

### Swiss Judge Calls on Pakistan to Take Action

Agence France-Presse

GENEVA — A Swiss magistrate has recently demanded the indictment of Benazir Bhutto, the former Pakistani prime minister, on money laundering charges related to alleged kickbacks from two Swiss companies.

Judge Daniel Devaud said Wednesday that he had issued the demand to charge Miss Bhutto on Monday and that it was sent to Swiss officials in Bern who are to transmit it to Islamabad.

Judge Devaud said it was now up to Pakistan to question Miss Bhutto and send her recorded statements back to his office.

In July, the judge formally charged Miss Bhutto's husband, Alif Ali Zardari, with pocketing kickbacks on government contracts with the Swiss cargo inspection companies Cotecna and Societe Generale de Surveillance. The contracts were signed when Miss Bhutto was in power.

Judge Devaud said the formal demand to charge Miss Bhutto, now the opposition leader in Pakistan, con-

curred commissions of around \$10 million paid by the two companies.

Judge Devaud started his investigation of the Bhutto affair following a request for Swiss legal assistance in late 1997 from the Pakistani government, which accuses the former prime minister of stealing millions of dollars from state coffers and stashing the money abroad.

Miss Bhutto, who was forced out as prime minister in November 1996 on charges of corruption and misrule, has consistently denied any wrongdoing and accused Pakistani authorities of trying to frame her and her family.

Judge Devaud said earlier that a formal demand for an indictment of Miss Bhutto would not be "proof of guilt" but would show there were "serious, solid and converging elements that show an infraction was committed."

Miss Bhutto's lawyer in Geneva, Dominique Poncet, said that it was not clear what would happen once the demand for the indictment reached Pakistan.

That strategy was discarded in the

## U.S. Team Reports Korean Starvation

By John Pomfret  
Washington Post Service

**BEIJING** — An estimated 300,000 to 200,000 people are dying in North Korea each year from starvation or hunger-related illnesses, a U.S. bipartisan team of congressional staffers said Wednesday after a weeklong fact-finding trip in the isolated Communist country.

The announcement marked the first time that Americans in government have publicly estimated the extent of North Korea's four-year food disaster. The staff members cited U.S. government statistics, refugee reports and the United Nations in providing their estimate, which concluded that at least 1 million people have died.

If accurate, the North Korean toll would rival the death toll in Somalia, where 1.5 million died in the early 1990s, and Ethiopia, where 1 million died in the mid-1980s. The estimate mirrors a finding issued in April by a 35-member task force of the Council on Foreign Relations, a New York-based think tank, that contended 1 million people died in North Korea in 1996 and 1997.

"That is a best-case scenario," said Mark Kirk, general counsel of the U.S.

## China's Army Feels Bite of Reforms

By John Pomfret  
Washington Post Service

**BEIJING** — The People's Liberation Army, confronting allegations of corruption, a security dilemma on its southern border following India and Pakistan's nuclear tests, and a plan to slice 500,000 troops off its rolls, is limping toward the 21st century with its dreams of becoming a modern army facing important tests.

A headline in People's Daily, the Communist Party newspaper, on Monday told a story of how the Chinese government would like it to be.

"The military and the people share one heart," read the headline on an article about the work of hundreds of thousands of soldiers fighting floods in central and northeastern China.

In reality, a Western military expert said, "a crisis of confidence" has penetrated the military's ranks, with the 2.5 million-member Chinese Army feeling the bite of economic reforms that have resulted in reductions of officers and soldiers.

Recent Chinese weapons acquisitions from Russia, such as the Sunburn anti-ship missile system, could make U.S. forces think twice about clashing with China. Nonetheless, it seems that China's plan to create an elite force to wage "local wars" under high-tech modern conditions" is under threat.

General Fan Quanyou, head of the army's General Staff Department, recently outlined that task as the army's main goal for the near future.

However, David Shambaugh, a specialist on the Chinese military at George Washington University in Washington, said that "one must not equate ambitions with capability and research with development."

"In order to modernize," he said, "China's military is going to have to undergo an almost complete reorganization of its role."

The People's Liberation Army celebrated its 71st anniversary this month. Born amid the forbidding terrain of Thistled Mountain in southern China, it started as a ragtag guerrilla force. Success in battle against the Nationalist troops of Chiang Kai-shek and later Japanese invaders gave birth to a strategy of People's War, which envisaged arming a whole society against an aggressor.

That strategy was discarded in the

1980s when China realized that it needed better troops, not more of them. But it still devotes 35 percent of its military budget to personnel costs, one of the highest such figures in the world.

Separately, each of the problems the army faces appears to be soluble, military specialists say. But a Chinese military analyst described them as "crabs in a barrel with interlocking claws."

"Grabbing one means that several more come with it," he said. "It is a difficult situation."

Perhaps most important among the army's issues is that China's ambitious program to reform its economy has begun to hurt the military. Almost every day the People's Liberation Army Daily publishes reports about the difficulties confronted by demobilized soldiers and officers seeking jobs.

Layoffs of the wives of officers from their civilian jobs also are a common topic. In the case of majors, who make the equivalent of about \$125 a month, spouses' salaries are critical to family survival.

On May 5, the army newspaper reported in the Nanjing military region, the firing of officers' wives was influencing officers' ability to keep their minds on their jobs.

"In order to prevent disturbances on the home front," the paper said, city authorities had agreed to place the women in new jobs or stop them from being fired.

At the 15th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party last September, President Jiang Zemin of China announced that 500,000 troops, including 50,000 officers, would be cut from the army's rolls.

The aim is to reduce troop strength to perhaps 1.8 million by the end of the century, Mr. Shambaugh said, as part of a program to forge a more professional force. But the army faces two problems as it reduces its ranks.

The first has been illustrated in the floods that have ravaged central China over the last month. In the past, soldiers and civilians battled natural disasters together. Today, economic reforms have weakened the Communist Party's ability to organize civilians to work for nothing. So, it has fallen on the army to stop the Yangtze River by itself. More cuts in troop strength will make the army's mission harder to accomplish, army officers have said.

The second problem is that placing demobilized soldiers in civilian jobs is getting more difficult. The Chinese economy

grew at an annualized rate of 7 percent in the first half of this year, slower than last year, and Western economists expect it to weaken further in the second half.

The explosion of nuclear devices by India and Pakistan in May also has shaken the army's general command, Western analysts said. The army's plans to modernize its forces were based on the assumption that the international environment around China would be stable for 15 to 20 years.

So, China's military planners have devoted the bulk of their expertise and development funds to planning for conflict with Taiwan, which China views as a renegade province. But with a brewing nuclear arms race on its southern flank, China could be forced to confront two potential conflicts at once.

In recent weeks, state-run media have criticized the army for involvement in smuggling, which costs China an estimated \$12 billion a year in revenue.

On July 22, President Jiang ordered the army to dismantle its huge empire of enterprises that operate a wide variety of businesses, from karaoke halls, to discos, to hotels, pharmaceutical companies, motorcycle makers and bowling alleys. This web of businesses is believed to generate \$10 billion in revenue for the army each year, \$2 billion of which is profit.

Mr. Jiang's announcement is part of another risky and important reform that, if it succeeds, will fundamentally change the way the army procures weapons and finances itself.

More than 1,500 companies make up the army's commercial kingdom; at least three army-backed companies are listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, and dozens of army companies have subsidiaries in the United States.

The army went into business in the 1980s as a way to supplement its shrinking share of the national budget. But this strong focus on profit has hurt the army's ability to defend the nation, the Chinese military analyst said.

As military companies have focused on profit-making, the weapons-manufacturing wings of these enterprises have languished, he said. Military orders have gone unfilled as enterprises crank out trucks instead of tanks, refrigerators instead of howitzers. Training also has fallen behind as regiments concentrate on profits rather than preparedness, he said.

### BRIEFLY

#### Hong Kong Attack Injures Radio Host

**HONG KONG** — Two men with carving knives attacked and seriously injured the most popular Hong Kong radio chat show host Wednesday.

**Chinese Dikes Fail**

**HARBIN, China** — The rain-swollen Songhua River punched through dikes around Harbin, an important city in northeastern China, on Wednesday, unleashing flooding that forced many people to flee. (AP)

remote mountain road in northern India, officials said.

Among the missing were 60 pilgrims who had been on their way to a holy lake in Tibet when the landslides hit their makeshift camp at Malade, near the Chinese border. (Reuters)

#### For the Record

Indonesia's Supreme Court rejected a lawsuit filed by Megawati Sukarnoputri challenging her ouster as the leader of the Indonesian Democratic Party at a military-sponsored party congress in 1996. (AP)

Burma's military government was accused by the UN's International Labor Organization of widespread forced labor "with total disregard for human dignity." (Reuters)

#### High Toll in India

**LUCKNOW, India** — More than 200 people, many of them Hindu pilgrims, were feared dead on Wednesday after a huge landslide hit a

remote mountain road in northern India, officials said.

Among the missing were 60

grims who had been on their way to a

holy lake in Tibet when the landslides

hit their makeshift camp at Malade,

near the Chinese border. (Reuters)

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## EUROPE

## Ex-East German Communists Aim to Scale Daunting Electoral Hurdle

By John Tagliabue

New York Times Service

POTSDAM, Germany — The red velvet curtain parted and Gregor Gysi rode out on a baby elephant, circling the ring to the thunderous applause of 800 or so supporters jammed into a sweltering circus tent.

With national elections six weeks off, things are going so poorly for Mr. Gysi, 50, the head of the former East German Communist Party, that the party has moved to a circus to draw attention. Although the party has been successful locally in East German states, Mr. Gysi said that the national vote is the biggest test for the party since 1990, when it renamed itself the Party of Democratic Socialism.

A party qualifies for seats in Parliament by winning at least 5 percent of the vote nationwide, and recent surveys put Mr. Gysi's party at about 4.4 per-

cent. By a quirk in election rules, a party that wins three head-to-head races is allowed its full proportional share of seats, and that's the route the party took into Parliament in 1994.

Under German electoral law, voters cast one vote for a candidate and a second for a party.

But they are to solidify their position in national politics, Mr. Gysi said in an interview, the Democratic Socialists must clear the 5 percent hurdle. "Any less than that would not be a success," he said.

The crowd at the circus was a mix of longtime Communists and others dissatisfied with some aspect of German unification.

Mr. Gysi said the party's roots in the east make it an advocate of eastern concerns, like battling unemployment and challenging as discriminatory the government's refusal to recognize professional qualifications from the former

East Germany. When Germany was unified eight years ago, many analysts expected the former Communists to fade quickly.

But they have grown to considerable strength, playing a role in government in several eastern states. Yet as Germany slowly knits together, the party's roots in the east are weakening. "People are moving away, new people moving in, and there's a growing right-wing potential," Mr. Gysi said.

In Western Germany, where the party is still identified with communism, Mr. Gysi says he would be happy to double the vote the party received in 1994 — to 600,000, from 300,000. But with 60 million people in Western Germany, he acknowledges that those numbers are just a drop in the bucket. The big hope remains in the east, in strongholds in Berlin and cities of Brandenburg state, like Potsdam. Yet even here, Mr. Gysi is running hard.

Far-right parties are drawing a protest vote and cutting into Democratic Socialist strength, and Mr. Gysi has come under fire from his own left wing. When the party sent a letter recently to the former German president, Richard von Weizsäcker, acknowledging Communist responsibility for injustices in the former East Germany, the leader of the party's left wing, Sarah Wagenknecht, denounced it as a groveling gesture that would cost the party votes.

Moreover, recent surveys show that while Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the Christian Democratic Union still trails his Social Democratic challenger, Gerhard Schroeder, the gap is closing. Thus, some of Mr. Gysi's followers, fearful that Mr. Schroeder's left-oriented Social Democrats could lose their first chance in 16 years to lead the government, appear set to split the ballots provided by German electoral law, casting one for Mr. Gysi's candidates, and a

second for Mr. Schroeder's Social Democrats.

In the former East Germany, Mr. Gysi carved out a niche for himself as a maverick lawyer, defending dissidents and heading a Communist Party committee that spearheaded a belated reform in 1989, just before the Berlin Wall fell. But in some ways, his notoriety before unification makes him a complication for a party seeking to free itself of the old Communist taint.

Witty and acerbic, Mr. Gysi is credited with leading the party's transformation to a democratic force, but he has earned himself many enemies. He has been accused repeatedly of informing for the Stasi, the old Communist secret police.

He vehemently rejects those charges, but a parliamentary committee concluded recently that the charges were true.

Mr. Gysi also happens to be one of the

most prominent Jews in German politics, and the polemics take on particular poignancy at a time when reunited Germany is grappling with issues of national identity and guilt.

He said he believes Mr. Schroeder's preferred outcome would be a "grand coalition" with the Christian Democrats. If that failed, and Mr. Schroeder accepted the environmental Green Party as a partner in a "red-green" coalition, then the Democratic Socialists would support such a government issue by issue, he said.

That, of course, could broaden the former Communists' role in national politics. It is the only German party that opposes the European single currency, the euro, not because it believes it to be a bad idea, but because unification of European labor law is not keeping step. It also opposes German participation in United Nations peacekeeping missions.

## BRIEFLY

## Albania Seeks a Meeting With Yugoslavs on Attack

12 Shells From Kosovo Send Residents Fleeing

The Associated Press

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — The Albanian government called Wednesday for an urgent meeting with Yugoslav authorities after Serbian mortar shells were fired into Albania from rebellious Kosovo Province.

The shelling, which the Albanians said lasted for two hours on Tuesday, prompted local officials on the Albanian side of the frontier to evacuate children and the elderly from border communities.

In Tirana, the Albanian capital, an Interior Ministry official said that the government was seeking an urgent meeting of a joint Yugoslav-Albanian border commission to discuss security problems.

The official said 15 shells exploded about 1.5 kilometers (nearly a mile) inside Albanian territory.

There were no reports of casualties, the Albanian official said. But the incident raised fears that the conflict in Kosovo, in which ethnic Albanian rebels are fighting to win independence for their province, which is part of Serbia, could spread through the southern Balkans region.

About 1,700 troops from the United States and 13 other countries are conducting a military exercise in the Albanian capital to demonstrate NATO's commitment to containing the Kosovo crisis.

On the diplomatic front, U.S. envoys

are pressing efforts to arrange direct talks between the Serbian government and a Kosovo Albanian delegation formed last week to bring the conflict to an end and chart the future of the province.

Kosovo is an ancient territory of Serbia, the main republic of the two remaining in Federal Yugoslavia. In recent decades, ethnic Albanians grew to become dominant in Kosovo.

On Tuesday, the Kosovo Albanians spurned an offer by the Serbs to begin talks immediately, saying Serbian attacks must cease and that tens of thousands of ethnic Albanian refugees must be allowed to return home.

The European Union's human rights commissioner, Emma Bonino, was touring refugee areas of Kosovo on Wednesday for a first-hand assessment of the crisis.

On Tuesday, a special U.S. envoy on the Kosovo crisis, Christopher Hill, who has been meeting with Yugoslav and ethnic Albanian leaders, reiterated the U.S. view that both sides should keep negotiating.

Complicating the diplomacy is the fact that the leading ethnic Albanian politician, Ibrahim Rugova, faces opposition from within the Kosovo Albanian community because he favors negotiations to resolve the crisis.

The Kosovo Liberation Army has rejected Mr. Rugova's leadership in favor of a hardliner, Adem Demaci.



DIGGING FOR ANSWERS — Members of an international team studying graves of miners killed by the Spanish flu in Norway 80 years ago. The bodies will be exhumed to study the nature of the epidemic.

## Sixth Fleet Is Smaller but Still on Vigil to Move Fast to Crisis Area

By William Drozdiak

Washington Post Service

GAIETÀ, Italy — A nightmare scenario is never far from the mind of Vice Admiral Daniel Murphy Jr., when in his command post aboard the USS *LaSalle*, he scrutinizes intelligence reports from some of the world's meanest neighborhoods.

It is his Sixth Fleet that may have to respond to an emergency.

In Serbia, fighting between Serbs and ethnic Albanians in the southern province of Kosovo threatens to spill across international borders.

That will make the question of priority dicier than ever before," he said. "It's obvious that when you remove more ships and add more tasks and responsibilities, things get a lot more difficult."

For nearly a half-century, the U.S. commitment to Europe's security was embodied by hundreds of thousands of soldiers clustered in Germany to thwart any possible Soviet-led invasion.

Nearly seven years after the Soviet Union formally disbanded, a quiet but dramatic transformation in the U.S. defense posture is taking place. Instead of tanks and soldiers hunkered down near the Fulda Gap in Germany, the focus of America's engagement has shifted toward the Mediterranean, where many analysts believe the Western allies confront their most perplexing military challenges.

"We simply could not handle that kind of scenario," the admiral said in an interview. "We can't maintain a presence in all areas of tension and so we would have to sort out our priorities. It's tough to figure out how we can succeed in deterring all of these conflicts."

As the North Atlantic Treaty Organization prepares to take in Poland,

region," said Admiral T. Joseph Lopez, commander in chief of allied forces in Southern Europe. "We need to apply the same kind of forward engagement across the line that won the Cold War so that we can prevent conflicts before they endanger us."

Some analysts, however, believe the United States and its allies are failing to make the right investments in adapting to the changing security environment.

While tens of billions of dollars are being earmarked for NATO expansion into Central Europe, they argue that too few resources are being invested in preparing for the likelihood of future military crises along the southern flank.

"There is very little work being done on NATO's southern strategy, even though everybody agrees that is where the next war could happen," said F. Stephen Larabee, director of European studies at the Rand Corp.

"The alliance is being expanded into Central Europe, where the threat has vanished, yet nobody seems to know if it can cope with the multiple risks present in the Mediterranean."

John Downing, senior naval analyst with the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, warns that aircraft carriers and other large vessels that form the backbone of the Sixth Fleet could prove vulnerable to such modern perils as a proliferation of medium-range ballistic missiles.

"The world has become a more dangerous place since the Cold War, and we will probably see a profusion of smaller wars fought with high-technology

weaponry," he said. "A standing naval fleet in the Mediterranean costs a lot of money to maintain, yet it could go down the drain with a few high-impact misses."

Even though the Sixth Fleet has shrunk nearly in half since the Cold War, it still constitutes the most powerful armada in the world, with 20,000 sailors and Marines, up to 30 warships and more than 100 aircraft.

The fleet patrols danger spots around Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

According to Sixth Fleet officers, 80 percent of the military contingencies involving the United States since the December 1991 breakup of the Soviet

Union have occurred within the fleet's zone of responsibility.

Its Marines have helped evacuate American civilians from Albania, Liberia and Sierra Leone. They are on alert for possible intervention in Congo if another war and refugee crisis should threaten to destabilize central Africa.

The fleet has carried out sustained air strikes and cruise-missile attacks that were credited with bringing the warring parties in Bosnia to sign a peace agreement in 1995.

It continues to help enforce a "no-fly" zone over Bosnia and would play an active role in a military intervention in Kosovo to halt Serbian attacks.

## It's 'Non' for Beef a la Viagra

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — A chef in the French Alps who thought he had devised a way to get around the country's prohibition on the anti-impotence drug Viagra found himself in hot water with French government officials on Wednesday.

Jean-Louis Galland, chef at the Hotel de la Renovation in Thonon-les-Bains, had been serving a "beef picata in Viagra sauce infused with fig vinegar and herbs" since Sunday.

But government inspectors seized Mr. Galland's supply of Viagra, which he had obtained in nearby

Switzerland. "Viagra is not approved in France," said an official of the Finance Ministry's Department of Consumer Protection. "So this appears to have been a case of dispensing drugs without a license."

Mr. Galland said he did not feel like a criminal and would continue to look for ways to make his customers happy, "particularly grandpas and their wives."

"I don't understand it," the chef said.

"They make medicine to make love better and they want to make war with me."

(AP, Reuters)

## 3 Turkish Generals Lose Political Roles

By Stephen Kinzer

New York Times Service

ISTANBUL — Three Turkish generals who led the military's campaign against what it sees as the rising influence of Islamic fundamentalism have retired or been transferred to provincial posts, where they will presumably have little to do with politics.

The transfers, part of a normal military rotation, have nonetheless led some Turks to wonder whether the military will take a lower profile in its battle against religious fundamentalism.

After a four-day meeting earlier this month, military spokesmen announced: the retirement of the army's chief of staff, General Ismail Hakkı Karadayı, who had served the prescribed four years but whose friends had sought to prolong his active service; the transfer of General Cevik Bir, the second-ranking commander, to a field command near Istanbul, and the appointment of General Erol Ozkasan, secretary to the

general staff, as chief of a cavalry school.

All three were major figures in the military-led campaign that forced the resignation of Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan in June last year. They accused him of plotting to undermine Turkish secularism.

The generals then approved the new prime minister, Mesut Yilmaz, and have continued to denounce what they describe as growing fundamentalist influence in Turkish society.

The military's own political influence has risen sharply in recent years. Rivalries among civilian political factions have weakened successive Turkish governments, and, partly as a result, the military has taken a larger role in key policy decisions. It is principally responsible for policy toward Israel, Greece and nearby countries. It also directs the war against Kurdish insurgents and helps set the limits on political dissent.

Because criticism of the military can

be judged criminal, debate over the legacy of the outgoing generals cannot be conducted freely. Some Turks, however, believe the officers did what was necessary to preserve secularism. Others feel they brought the military too deeply into politics.

"You'd make your judgment according to what side of the division in Turkish society you're on," said Ihsan Turan, a professor of political science at Koc University in Istanbul.

"Secularists will tend to evaluate this as a great service to the nation and enhancement of democracy. The more religious camp sees it as an unsolicited intervention on the part of state elites."

Military commanders have publicly rejected speculation in the press that the incoming team might take a softer line toward politicized Islam.

The outgoing commander, General Karadayı, asserted that such reports "encourage reactionary circles and lay the groundwork for fundamentalism."



NEW TRIAL ORDERED — Mahmut Yilmaz, one of seven Turkish students imprisoned for two years for demonstrating against tuition increases, beaming as he left the State Security Court in Ankara on Wednesday.

## The Fight Goes On / The President's Choice of Words

## Clinton's Words His Own, but Some Aides Opposed Defiance of Starr

By John F. Harris

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In a meeting at the White House on Sunday, Mickey Kantor, presidential confidant and lawyer, arrived clutching papers. It was a speech draft, written in President Bill Clinton's own hand, and Mr. Kantor wove it for emphasis.

Everyone, according to several people in the room, understood Mr. Kantor's point: The president of the United States knew exactly what he wanted in say when he addressed the nation about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, the former White House aide.

Throughout the next day, there would be new drafts written by advisers, cautions edits insisted upon by lawyers, and urgings to Mr. Clinton from the staff to discard his defiant criticism of the independent counsel Kenneth Starr.

In the White House solarium Monday evening, the wrangling between different White House factions over the wording of the speech continued until less than an hour before the 10 P.M. air time.

In the end, however, the speech Mr. Clinton gave was emphatically his own — too much so for his own good, some aides worried the day after.

The consensus among numerous Clinton loyalists, both in the White House and outside, was that Mr. Clinton had effectively addressed the concerns

of a majority of Americans with his televised statement that his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky was "not appropriate" and that he took "complete responsibility" for a "critical lapse in judgment."

But several advisers also agreed that the second half of Mr. Clinton's speech, with its seething tone toward Mr. Starr and the president's insistence that his adulterous sexual relationship with the former intern was "nobody's business" but his family's, had inflamed an already hostile environment in Washington.

In the assessment of White House political advisers, Republicans and the news media wanted Mr. Clinton to be held, and to hold himself, accountable for his transgressions with Ms. Lewinsky.

That being the case, they argued, why would he want to muddy a speech intended to signal remorse and the acceptance of responsibility with words of victimhood and grievance?

The answer, and the last word on the subject, was that Mr. Clinton himself wanted it that way. In the end, political advisers persuaded Mr. Clinton to tone down some of his rhetoric, but the gist it stayed intact.

"People complain Clinton is programmed," said one Clinton adviser, "but it does not get any more authentic than this. He said exactly what he thinks."

Numerous sources with firsthand or

close secondhand knowledge of the speech deliberations discussed the evolution of the speech under the condition they not be quoted by name.

Several described three clusters of advisers with different interests in the speech.

One cluster included White House political advisers such as Rahm Emanuel and Paul Begala, who felt that Mr. Clinton's most important task was to try to bring closure to the Lewinsky controversy with an unambiguous display of contrition.

A second cluster, led by Mr. Clinton's private attorney, David Kendall, wanted Mr. Clinton above all to do nothing that might increase his legal jeopardy. This meant limiting apologies and being vague about precisely what actions he was expressing regret about.

A third cluster, which included the White House aide Sidney Blumenthal and apparently with the support of Hillary Rodham Clinton, was eager to take the offensive against Mr. Starr with expressions of outrage at the roaming nature of his four-year investigation and condemnation of his alleged violations of privacy. Mr. Blumenthal fixed in his suggestions from a European vacation.

Amid this barrage of advice, aides said Mrs. Clinton urged her husband to simply say what he felt.

Yet, even a speech as intimately personal as this was, like all Clinton speeches, a committee product.

Mr. Begala, a political consultant who joined the White House staff last year, was tapped as editor of the effort.

But Mr. Begala was working only in the abstract. It was not until Monday, after Mr. Clinton had begun testifying, that Mr. Kantor was given the green light to actually share with him Mr. Clinton's proposed speech.

Only then, just several hours before the speech did White House officials learn of the harsh language Mr. Clinton wanted to include against Mr. Starr.

But even some aides who wanted Mr. Clinton to take a softer line were wary of overdoing words of apology. Clinton aides said this would have amounted to groveling that would have weakened

Mr. Clinton's reputation both at home and overseas.

Having concluded that an all-out apology went too far, the question confronting the White House on Tuesday was whether the language Mr. Clinton did use had gone far enough.

While most of the country likes Mr. Clinton and is rooting for him, one aide said, Republicans and many reporters are driven to distraction by their fear that Mr. Clinton is getting away with something.

It was largely to overcome this response from Washington that White House political advisers worked Tuesday to generate a public perception that Mr. Clinton has indeed paid for his sins.

The White House prodded Democrats on Capitol Hill to spread the message that Mr. Clinton had paid a grievous price for what they described as private sexual follies. Among those whom political advisers prompted to make a statement was Senator Robert Torricelli, Democrat of New Jersey, who called a reporter unsolicited from a trip to England.

"As a husband, father and a man, Bill Clinton has been humiliated," said Mr. Torricelli. "I see no value in compounding the pain."

Mr. Torricelli said he had spoken with Mr. Clinton Tuesday and discerned a deep "sense of relief: Bill Clinton probably always knew he was going to face this moment of truth."

Asia. Fea

## Details Emerge of Testimony to Jury

By Peter Baker and Susan Schmidt

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — As President Bill Clinton left Washington for a 10-day vacation, new details emerged about his testimony to a grand jury, the first time any president has been questioned in a criminal investigation of his actions.

Soon after the session began in the White House Map Room, Mr. Clinton read a prepared statement that gave an account of his sexual encounters with Monica Lewinsky, specifically acknowledging engaging in oral sex with her and detailing some times and places where they met, according to sources familiar with his testimony.

Some of the times and dates cited by the president may not have matched other evidence or testimony, they said.

After reading his statement, "that's when he said, 'That's all I'm going to say, that's it,'" a lawyer close to the Clinton said.

The special counsel, Kenneth Starr, and four of his prosecutors called a break and budded outside the room, then returned and posed questions that Mr. Clinton refused to answer, complaining that they were graphic and intrusive.

The Starr lawyers told him they reserved the right to reissue a subpoena they withdrew when Mr. Clinton agreed to testify voluntarily, which could lead to the president's being held in contempt of court if he continued to refuse to testify.

The independent counsel's office had no comment on the president's testimony Monday and there was no indication whether Mr. Starr was determined to press the issue. Mr. Starr could forgo further attempts to question the president and instead cite his refusal as an example of impeding his investigation in the report to Congress on possible grounds for impeachment, legal experts said.

"I cannot speak for the independent counsel, nor do I know what transpired, but it would seem to me there would be some risk in reissuing a subpoena," said John Bates, a former Starr deputy. The public, he said, might see such a move as overreaching by the prosecutor.

After the impasse over sex-related questions, Mr. Starr's team asked about evidence related to possible obstruction of perjury and obstruction of justice in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case.

The president answered all questions touching on such issues, according to sources, including those about Vernon Jordan's job search for Ms. Lewinsky and her return of presidential gifts to Mr. Clinton's personal secretary, Betty Currie, despite a subpoena ordering her to turn them over to Mrs. Jones's lawyers.

Details about how the president responded were not revealed, although in his Monday-night address to the nation he denied asking anyone to lie or hide evidence.

While the vast majority of the questions at a session described by sources as combative dealt with Ms. Lewinsky, Mr. Starr and his deputies also asked about Kathleen Willey, the former White House aide who accused Mr. Clinton of groping her in the Oval Office suite and has testified about alleged efforts to change her testimony. Mr. Clinton has publicly denied her account.

Mr. Starr himself asked two questions but left the bulk of interrogation to his deputies, Jackie Bennett, Solomon Wisenberg and Robert Bitman, and the associate independent counsel, Michael Ermick. Joining Mr. Clinton were his private attorneys, David Kendall and Nicole Seligman, and the White House counsel, Charles Ruff.

According to one account, the session

began at 1:03 P.M. and broke up at 6:18 P.M., including several breaks.

The Clinton camp is confident the president does not face legal peril on a charge of perjury in the Jones case because his answers in his Jan. 17 deposition were so vague and were often hedged with qualifiers such as "I believe" or "I recall" or "perhaps."

For example, when he was asked by Mrs. Jones's attorney, James Fisher, if he was ever alone with Ms. Lewinsky in the Oval Office, Mr. Clinton said, "I don't recall," but then said she sometimes brought him papers on weekends.

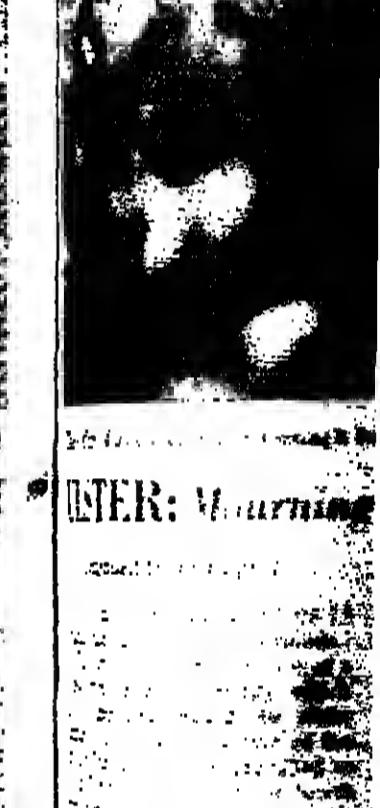
Sources familiar with the president's legal strategy said Mr. Clinton in his testimony Monday cited what they called a loophole in the definition of

"sexual relations" used during the Jones deposition, maintaining that it did not appear to include oral sex performed on him.

It was not clear, however, how or if Mr. Clinton explained other sexual activity that Ms. Lewinsky reportedly testified about, including intimate touching that would be covered by the definition.

Ms. Lewinsky testified just once, on Aug. 6, after securing a deal with Mr. Starr that provided her and her parents with full immunity from prosecution in exchange for her truthful testimony.

But Mr. Starr's office notified her Tuesday that she must reappear Thursday so the prosecutors can compare Mr. Clinton's testimony with her recollections.



Mark Wilson/White House

President Clinton, with Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin in the background, walking into the Rose Garden on Aug. 6, with the telltale tie.

## TIE: A Signal From President to Lewinsky?

Continued from Page 1

If it was, it did not work. Ms. Lewinsky did not learn of Mr. Clinton's choice of neckties until she turned on the television that evening and saw a video clip of him in the Rose Garden, her friends said. That day, she had contradicted her sworn affidavit, testifying that she and the president had had an affair in the White House.

The necktie was evidently covered by a subpoena sent to the White House for gifts and other evidence by prosecutors for Mr. Starr. But apparently it was not turned over by Mr. Clinton at that time.

Clothing has become something of a leitmotif in Mr. Starr's investigation. He has pursued a great deal of circumstantial evidence in his investigation of Mr. Clinton, including gifts like a T-shirt that the president gave her. One of Mr. Starr's potentially strongest pieces of evidence is a navy blue dress, bought at the Gap, that Ms. Lewinsky turned over to prosecutors.

On Monday, during more than four hours of testimony at the White House, prosecutors asked Mr. Clinton why he chose to wear that particular tie on that particular day, one Clinton adviser said.

An ally of Mr. Clinton's described the inquiry into neckwear as an example of how the Starr investigation had gone

rambling along irrelevant and peculiar byways. "The obstruction-of-justice stuff was kind of goofy," one Clinton adviser said Tuesday.

The president was said to have smiled at the question and expressed some bemusement. Perry-Mason-style, the prosecutors then pulled out a photograph of the tie. Mr. Clinton was said to have indicated that it was possible she had given it to him but that he certainly was not trying to communicate anything by wearing it.

But the tie may have meant a lot to Ms. Lewinsky, who is said to have looked at television reports to see whether he was wearing it. In June, Ms. Lewinsky noticed that Mr. Clinton had worn the tie she had given him on three occasions in recent months: on the day he left for his trip to China, the day he returned and the day he left again in Atlanta.

Ms. Lewinsky had given Mr. Clinton six ties during their 18-month relationship, which began in November 1995.

In his brief speech Monday night, Mr. Clinton contradicted his previous denials and acknowledged that he had had a relationship with Ms. Lewinsky. That night, Ms. Lewinsky's friends were dismayed that he seemed to send her no signals whatsoever.

He wore a patterned blue tie, of un-determined provenance.

## POLITICAL NOTES

## On Vacation, Clinton Gets Warm Welcome

year-old secretary from Edgartown, with her friends standing nearby. He looked right at me. He's so good-looking.

(WP)

## Reno 'Considering' Yet Another Probe

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Janet Reno is "seriously considering" seeking the appointment of an independent counsel to investigate alleged campaign finance abuses of the 1996 Clinton-Gore re-election effort, federal law enforcement sources said.

After resisting calls for such an investigation for two years, Ms. Reno is "as close as she's ever been" to seeking an outside counsel, the sources said, as she weighs whether to recommend an investigation into Harold Ickes's activities as the White House's point man for 1996 fund-raising. They emphasized that no final decision has been made.

The sources also confirmed a report in The Wall Street Journal on Tuesday that the Justice Department had reopened its review of the legality of Vice President Al Gore's fund-raising calls from the White House.

Asia. Fea

## What Major Politicians Are Saying

"I was present in the Roosevelt Room in January when the president categorically denied any sexual involvement with Monica Lewinsky. I believed him. His remarks last evening leave me with a deep sense of sadness in that my trust in his credibility has been badly shattered." — Senator Dianne Feinstein, Democrat of California, a longtime ally of President Bill Clinton.

"This is no longer a question of private morality or political popularity. Certainly, we could spare the country a great deal of pain by abandoning the rule of law. That's too high a price. With great sadness, I have concluded that the president should resign or face impeachment." — Representative Paul McHale, Democrat of Pennsylvania.

"Some Republicans and Starr want us and the American people to know every lurid detail of the president's sex life. Quite frankly, we don't want to

## BOOKS

## DREAM CHILDREN

By A.N. Wilson. 218 pages.

\$23.95. W.W. Norton & Co.

Reviewed by Miehiko Kakutani

AT FIRST glance, Oliver Gold, the philosophical "hero" of A.N. Wilson's 17th novel, seems like a satire on Iris Murdoch's charismatic genius figures — one of those charming, controlling priest-types who surround themselves with admiring groupies and disciples.

There is a more sinister side to Oliver, however, and the gradual revelation of his secret life will turn "Dream Children" from a typical Wilson comedy of manners into something darker and more disturbing.

Oliver, we're told, has been hailed as the "Ruskin or the Mill de notre époque" and is rumored to be working on a great novel that would "take its place beside Mann, Proust, Dostoevsky." He's the sort of man whose idea of a good time is basking up alone in a cabin and re-reading the complete works of Hegel in German.

Oliver is idolized by students, respected by colleagues and worshipped by women. In particular, he is adored by the women with whom he shares a house at 12 Wagner Rise in London: Catharine Cuffe, a former student who thinks of herself as his intellectual soul mate; Cuffe's friend, Michal Rose, a social worker, who falls passionately in love with him; Michal's mother, Janet, a literary hanger-on who desperately covets his intellectual cachet; Michal's 10-year-old daughter, Bobs, who sees him as a playmate, father figure and best friend, and Bobs' nanny, Lotte, an odd

young woman with a hysterical streak.

The seemingly placid household at 12 Wagner Rise (another one of those insular little worlds Wilson loves to depict) is abruptly shaken one morning when news arrives that Oliver is planning to get married — not to one of his longtime admirers, but to a vile American interloper named Camilla Baynes.

The arrival of Camilla and her reliable mother, Rosalie, sets off a series of confrontations and subterfuges, and those intrigues will in turn threaten to expose Oliver's deepest, most shameful secret.

Like Nabokov's Humbert Humbert, Oliver has a passion for little girls — more specifically, a passion for little Bobs, his "dream child," with whom he has been having an "affair" for several years. Oliver is not just a dirty old man with no regard for the emotional damage he has inflicted on the child; he's also a wildly selfish egotist who believes his status as a genius entitles him to play by different rules than the "evil, lecherous people" who would rape him in the literary world.

In fact, every character in this novel is revealed to be in the grip of a serious delusion. Oliver, of course, convinces himself — and his groupies — that he is a kind of "secular saint." Cuffe tells herself that she really understands her former professor. Michal pretends that she has found in Oliver the perfect baby sitter for her daughter. And Janet persuades herself that she is still a player in the literary world.

Needless to say, the price of their collective illusions will be the shattered innocence of a 10-year-old girl.

Wilson uses his sharp wit to capture the foibles of his characters: he coyly mocks their fondness for trendy bohemian poses and eviscerates their pretensions for using convoluted intellectual arguments to justify their moral lapses.

"Dream Children" may start out like so many Wilson novels, as an innocuous domestic watercolor, but it ends up mutating into something closer to Balthus paintings of children that reverberate with menace and dread.

The New York Times

## BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

TWO of the world's best foursomes were battling down to the wire earlier this month in the final of the Spin-gold Knockout Teams. It was Sunday night in Chicago, at the end of the American Contract Bridge League's Summer Nationals, and some 300 spectators were watching the proceedings intently in the Vugraph theater.

The match had been close throughout, and with two deals remaining, four Polish stars — Marek Szymanski, Marcin Lesniowski, Adam Zmudzinski and

## INTERNATIONAL

## In Asia, Fears That Clinton Scandal Will Erode U.S. Leadership

By Kathryn Tolbert

*International Herald Tribune*

**TOKYO** — Deep disappointment in President Bill Clinton, admiration for the American system and worry about U.S. leadership during Asia's economic crisis characterized Asian editorial comment Wednesday following Mr. Clinton's admission of lying about an extramarital affair.

Many commentators said the president's moral authority and his presidency were irreversibly damaged, that he disgraced himself and that his televised speech was not sincere.

"Rather than a straight confession, we got the impression this was a well-calculated act to protect himself," said Japan's *Asahi Shimbun*.

In Seoul, Hong Kong and Tokyo, editorial writers worried about the impact of Mr. Clinton's admission on his credibility as a world leader.

"The truth is, however critical we are of Washington's international behavior, its presence and engagement are necessary for world stability in the broadest sense," said the *Hong Kong Standard*.

"Especially now that countries in Asia and beyond are in the throes of economic

difficulties, a U.S. brooding over domestic politics at the expense of its international role and obligations should be strongly discouraged."

One of Seoul's leading dailies, *Jun-gang Ilbo*, echoed that worry. "The primary concern now is the danger that the U.S. may lose consistency and trust, for that matter, in its policies particularly foreign policy," it said. "We all know there is a direct link between the credibility of the president and the trustworthiness of the country he represents."

Tokyo's *Yomiuri Shimbun* said it was not clear that Mr. Clinton would be little more than a lame duck leader for the remainder of his term, concluding: "The international community will be paying close attention to see whether Mr. Clinton will be able to put the matter behind him and return to the role that is expected of him."

Words of praise were saved for Hillary Rodham Clinton and the American system. The Korean Broadcasting System commented Tuesday night that "Hillary's attitude was impressive," and Singapore television praised her for "standing by her man."

In Indonesia, where former President Suharto was forced out of office this year

after 32 years in power, *The Jakarta Post* said Mr. Clinton had "shown his gallantry" by admitting his guilt and it said it was understandable that Americans, with a robust economy, would continue to support him. It added that "compared to hundreds of millions of people in countries ruled by dictators and military despots who exploit their nations' wealth for their own interests, Americans are far luckier to live in a country governed by a solid constitution that guarantees their rights and freedom."

The U.S. system that forced Mr. Clinton to admit before a grand jury that he lied about an extramarital affair was widely praised.

"Above all, the Lewinsky affair reminds us that everyone is equal before the law in America," said *Hankook Ilbo*, major Korean daily. "The case is so impressive because it proves that the U.S. adheres to the rule of law even when a president is involved."

A member of Japan's Parliament, Yukio Koike, interviewed Tuesday by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, said she admired the fight between politicians and prosecutors as well as Mr. Clinton's decision to go before the nation on television. "By doing so, the United States as a nation

succeeds in gaining a stronger system."

But others saw a decline in U.S. public life. "This phenomenon, probably, uncovers a far more serious malaise — the decline and approaching meltdown of American society itself," wrote a Philippine Star commentator, Max Soliven.

Thai politicians interviewed by *The Nation* in Bangkok said the problem was with the lie and its impact on Mr. Clinton's credibility with American voters, not the affair itself. "For the sexual matter, it is up to the American people to decide how they want their leader to be," said one. "In the old days, kings had many wives."

Nearly alone as a national leader willing to publicly comment, the newly elected president of the Philippines, Joseph Estrada, was quoted by Reuters Tuesday as saying he agreed with Mr. Clinton that leaders are entitled to their privacy. "Definitely. We are only human beings. We have to have private

lives also." Mr. Estrada has been criticized by the Catholic church for his lifestyle. He is reported to have as many as 10 children by various women.

## ■ In Europe, Mixed Reactions

President Clinton drew mockery and skepticism from European newspapers over his confessions regarding his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, Reuters reported from London.

"Mr. Clinton's tenure will continue for some time to come," said *The Times* of London. But, "The Clinton era is already over."

The *Daily Mirror*, a tabloid, was equally blunt. "Bill Clinton has shamed the American presidency," it said. "He shamed it by having an affair with a young worker at the White House. But most of all, he shamed it because he then had many wives."

Italy's *Il Giornale* spoke of "the suicide of a president in front of the television cameras," while a Swedish newspaper, *Expressen*, quoted a Moderate Party deputy, Beatrice Ask, as saying: "I wouldn't stand by the wimp."

However, Prime Minister Goran Persson of Sweden lamented on television: "There's too much digging into people's lives."

The French press, which has a reputation of being largely indifferent to the sexual arrangements of politicians, seemed to suggest that America would be a far healthier place if it were France.

"If Bill Clinton had dared to cry out his confession instead of murmuring it, if he had clearly confessed rather than quibbling, this great sinner would have shown himself to be a great president," *Le Figaro* said.

But the *Financial Times* said: "There's enough time left in this presidency, enough important jobs to be done at home and abroad for Mr. Clinton to go some way towards rebuilding his status."

## CLINTON: President Adopts Low Profile as Starr Keeps Probing

Continued from Page 1

Sept. 8 — left little room for the president to let down his guard.

There were suggestions, too, that some Clinton aides felt jolted and deceived by his acknowledgment of a sexual relationship with Ms. Lewinsky. Many of them had faithfully supported him during seven months in which he stoutly denied such a relationship. Some reportedly were considering leaving the White House.

Feeling clearly ran deep among many of his supporters in Congress, as well. Mr. Clinton has long enjoyed strong support among women and liberal Democrats. That made the reaction of Senator Dianne Feinstein, Democrat of California, stand out.

"My faith in the president's credibility has been shattered," she said. "I do not know whether the president's remarks bring this most unfortunate period to an end."

California's other senator, Barbara Boxer, is also a liberal Democrat and has often defended the Clinton White House against scandal. Her daughter is married to Mrs. Clinton's brother. Yet she, too, was critical.

"I think he should have told us the truth seven months ago and we could have put this behind us," she told *The Los Angeles Times*. "That relationship was wrong — clear, black-and-white, no-room-for-ambiguity wrong."

Mr. Clinton's speech played better among the general public than it did on Capitol Hill, polls indicated. His job-approval rating was at 71 percent Tuesday, up from 67 percent a week earlier, according to a CBS News/New York Times poll, a rise within the poll's 4-percentage-point margin of error. And women's support for Mr. Clinton has continued to outpace men's, even after the president's much-dissected speech.

Like Kremlin-watchers of yore, analysts scrutinized film of the Clintons departing Tuesday for clues of what has become of their relationship. Mrs. Clinton's body language was studied to see if it matched the statement from a spokeswoman Tuesday that the first lady "believes in this president and loves him very much."

It was noted that the three Clintons, in a much-photographed walk across the White House lawn to their helicopter, held hands tightly, but that Chelsea stood between her stiff and unsmiling mother and her father, and that at no time did the elder Clintons speak to each other or directly touch. The same was true on their arrival in Martha's Vineyard, where an enthusiastic crowd of friends and supporters met them.

"Nobody has ever pushed the envelope so far," Mr. Cutler said. "No president has ever been subpoenaed before to testify about his own alleged criminal conduct. I don't question the independent counsel's right to do so. But there is such a thing as prosecutorial discretion."

In resisting the independent counsel's attempt to question his closest advisers and the agents who protect him, Mr.

Both Mr. Clinton and Ms. Lewinsky had originally denied the relationship in sworn statements in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case. But on Monday, Mr. Clinton told prosecutors in testimony at the White House, seen by closed-circuit by grand jurors 12 blocks away, that there had been such an affair.

Prosecutors are now believed to want Ms. Lewinsky to respond to elements of Mr. Clinton's testimony. Mr. Starr's report may depend on how any differences are reconciled. While Mr. Starr's team is holding open the possibility of seeking the return of the president for further testimony, that is considered unlikely.

Congressional leaders are now waiting to see what the Starr report contains, how damaging the charges may be, and how pressing the calls are at that time for impeachment.

There is interest among some in Congress in taking a step short of impeachment but greater than doing nothing. Representative George Gekas, Republican of Pennsylvania, said that Mr. Clinton should, at the least, be censured by the House for his admitted sexual misconduct.

## RANCOR: Clinton and Starr Damaged

Continued from Page 1

White House's losing court battles to assert attorney-client privilege, executive privilege and a protective privilege for the Secret Service had all diminished the office of the presidency itself.

"The White House made a big mistake in litigating all these things because it has weakened the presidency," Mr. Gray said. "There's been a cutback in the leverage and bargaining power. And women's support for Mr. Clinton has continued to outpace men's, even after the president's much-dissected speech.

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Clinton has portrayed himself as fighting for political survival, against what he and his wife have characterized as an unfairly intrusive, partisan witch-hunt.

The suspicions of bad faith on both sides have meant that the White House and the independent counsel have both been determined to fight every issue to the hilt.

"Neither one of them wants to give an inch," said E. Lawrence Birella Jr., a former federal prosecutor, who likened the struggle to a *cafeteria food fight*. "The independent counsel isn't going to develop perspective and restraint he never had, and the president isn't suddenly going to decide to give in to this four-year obsession."

While few would predict a victor in the battle, there was wide agreement that when the independent counsel statute comes up for reauthorization, it will face dim prospects for renewal in its current form.

Even Lawrence Walsh, the independent counsel who spent six years and \$40 million investigating the Iran-contra affair, said he felt the statute should apply only to offenses committed by sitting presidents relating to their official duties. He also said he was worried that a long-term consequence of the Lewinsky investigation was "the harshest of law enforcement in this country."

## AIDS: Infected African Mothers Are Faced With a Terrible Choice

Continued from Page 1

black eyes and a constant cough. Dorothy, frail and pretty in a tiny cotton dress, was delivered, with the help of friends, on only mattress in the house.

Like at least 95 percent of Uganda's village women, Mrs. Namonyozi has no idea whether she is infected with HIV. She has never had prenatal care, nor has she ever taken a blood test. She only knows about HIV because it killed two of her brothers. The cost of formula for one child, when it is available in Uganda and when there is clean water to mix with it, is on average 1.5 times what a village family earns each year. Mrs. Namonyozi said she has never seen anyone it.

"It seems so difficult to handle," she said, after hearing what is necessary to keep formula safe for babies. "How would I have the time?" She is currently feeding her baby 10 times a day, and each of those days is filled with essential chores.

Even if the formula were donated and delivered to her home, as UN officials hope it would be, she says it would be difficult to find a way to fetch the water, boil it and prepare the meals for her infant while also working in the garden and cooking for her husband, herself and her other daughter.

But when asked if she would use formula if it meant giving her child a better start in life, she said yes. That's because formula holds promise — one that is rarely realized in this part of the world.

"Oh, sure, it could be great," said Dr. Francis Miro, the chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Makerere University Medical School in Kampala, the Ugandan capital.

Makerere is Africa's oldest university, and it was from here nearly 20 years ago that the first vague reports of "slim disease," as AIDS was called here before it had a name, started making their way to America. Since then, more than 2 million Ugandans, nearly 15 percent of the nation, have become infected, and of those, one million have died in this country where many researchers think the AIDS epidemic may have begun.

"Do you know what I would love to

be able to do all day?" Dr. Miro asked rhetorically. "I would love to counsel every HIV-positive mother about her choices in life. I would love to tell her about breast milk and about formula. Then I would love to have a conversation with her about what would happen to her in her village if she stopped breastfeeding. What would her mother-in-law say? What would her husband do? And of course I would love to make sure she understood the rules for keeping formula sterile and that she complied with them.

"I would love to do all that," he concluded wearily. "But then, I

Scare funds make drug treatments that have become routine in the United States almost impossible to contemplate here. So people infected with the virus die, and usually they die quickly.

wouldn't be living in Uganda and I wouldn't be talking to my own people. I would be living in America and I would be talking to your people."

Asked if he thought it was foolish to recommend formula to women living in villages, he closed his eyes and reeled off the numbers: "Twenty seven percent of babies born to infected mothers become infected from breastfeeding," he said. "In rural areas, 85 percent of babies will die from dirty water used in formula."

The obvious key to the benefits of using formula is that it is used with suitable water and under proper conditions.

Despite the habits of millennia, Dr. Miro and countless colleagues agree that something fairly drastic must be done to help protect children from HIV. If mothers who are infected with the virus do not breastfeed, their children will have a far better chance of survival.

What is more, AIDS experts now know that if a pregnant woman is treated

with a very inexpensive course of AZT during the final stages of her pregnancy, during birth and for a few days after her child is born, the chance of transmission of the virus to the child is reduced by half. The cost of such a course of treatment was until recently \$200 per person, but with the help of the UN AIDS program the price is now \$50.

"This is the best life-saving program we have in the developing world," said Dr. Joseph Saba, a clinical research specialist with UN AIDS, who has coordinated the attempt to make drugs more accessible to people in Africa.

"You cannot just say to these people 'You are too poor to live.' You have to say we are trying everything on Earth to stop this plague. They have to know that we are not condemning them to death."

Dr. Saba comes often to Uganda to mediate between drug companies, health officials and aid agencies in an effort to bring drug prices down so that local governments and at least some people can afford them. He knows as well as anyone that, as is the case with formula, making AZT available to pregnant mothers raises almost as many terrible new questions as it answers.

And the biggest one is obvious: Will AZT encourage women to have children who will all either die or become orphans?

As soon as the mother delivers, she will stop taking AZT; almost no African women can afford to stay on it for long. That means she will die, probably within two or three years, sometimes much sooner. Her child will then almost certainly join the almost unimaginably vast army — in Africa alone the number is now past 8 million — of orphans that the AIDS epidemic has unleashed upon the world.

"What is worse?" asks Dr. Edward Mbide, the chief of Uganda's Cancer Institute, and one of the country's medical leaders. "To let a baby die of AIDS when we can save it, or to let the baby into the world just to become an orphan in a society that has been overwhelmed with death? I have not yet run into anyone who is qualified to answer that question."

The coffin of a boy killed in Omagh being borne Wednesday to a graveyard in Buncrana, in the Irish Republic.

## ULSTER: Mourning Town Scorns Cease-Fire Called by Bombers

Continued from Page 1

An IRA cease-fire, maintained for 13 months, made that agreement possible.

The agreement included creation of a new Northern Ireland Assembly, which is to convene in Belfast in January. The province's 11 counties were to be given more power and to give the Irish Republic more influence in Northern affairs.

The Real IRA rejected the agreement because, the reforms notwithstanding, it leaves the province a part of the United Kingdom and stipulates that the North may only be subsumed into the Irish Republic if a majority of Northerners consent.

Protestants, who have always opposed unity with the Republic of Ireland, are likely to remain in the majority in the North well into the next century.

On Wednesday afternoon, one of the leaders of a political organization accused by the Irish and British governments of complicity in the Omagh bombing denied that she or her common-law husband, a former IRA weapons quartermaster, had been involved.

Bernadette Sands, of the 32-County Sovereignty Committee, which vehemently opposes the peace agreement, said she and her partner, Michael McK-

## U.S. Urges Exodus From Afghanistan

By Raymond Bonner

*New York Times Service*

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Adding to the fears and tensions following the bombing of embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, the U.S. Embassy here Wednesday urged all non-Muslims working in neighboring Afghanistan to leave.

The warning was based on threats in general, not on anything specific, but was considered serious enough that the embassy sent it out in the early morning hours Wednesday.

In Cairo on Wednesday, a coalition of fundamentalist Islamic organizations threatened further attacks on Americans.

"The coming days will guarantee, God willing, that America will face a black fate," a group calling itself the World Islamic Front for Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders,

## EDITORIALS/OPINION

## Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

## Mea Not So Culp

President Bill Clinton had the opportunity Monday evening to begin the process of putting the Monica Lewinsky scandal legitimately behind him — but that would have required the telling of some unvarnished truth. He passed it up in favor of still another attempt at manipulation, a mostly mock confession in which he made a show of taking responsibility that in fact he once again sought to dodge. He continues as well the unseemly practice of blaming others — political opponents, the independent counsel — for legal and political problems that are almost entirely of his own creation.

Mr. Clinton acknowledged his affair with Ms. Lewinsky, and in so doing he took the blame for that part of the scandal that alone cannot get him into serious trouble. Sex by a president with a young intern is offensive behavior, but it is not by itself grounds for any legal action against him, nor even likely an investigation.

And the more serious the allegation, the less responsibility the president was willing to take. He fussed over what he did when he looked the television cameras in the eye in January and directly denied having had a sexual relationship with "that woman," saying only that "my public comments and my silence about this matter gave a false impression — I misled people." He blurred the question of whether he told the truth in his deposition to the Paula Jones case, insisting that "my answers were legally accurate." He also said that "at no time did I ask anyone to lie, to hide or destroy evidence or to take any other unlawful action." He admitted to "a relationship with Miss Lewinsky that was not appropriate ... it was wrong." Let that be the end of it, was essentially what he asked.

But the affair itself has never been the issue in this case, as the president and the people around him well un-

derstand. Mr. Clinton, in fact, still resists addressing the real issues fully. He had promised to testify "completely and truthfully," but he declined to answer certain questions to his grand jury appearance. His lawyers laid that on independent counsel Kenneth Starr, for having asked questions that were too personal. The president in his statement likewise attacked the Starr investigation for having "gone on too long, cost too much and hurt too many innocent people," as if the prosecutor were the one who lied, then stone-walled and bent the country out of shape the past seven months.

"It is time, in fact it is past time, to move on," the president said, suggesting that the only issues remaining in the case were private ones having to do with him and his family, "nobody's business but ours." But that is not so. The basic questions as to whether he broke the law remain. They are hardly for the president himself to dismiss in a wishful speech. They await Mr. Starr's report to Congress.

Mr. Clinton would apparently have this report viewed, in light of his speech, as dead on arrival. But a failure to examine the facts seriously would be an abdication of Congress's constitutional obligation to weigh the evidence in a case as serious as this.

This is not to suggest that the House of Representatives must impeach or even take preliminary steps in that direction in order to fulfill its responsibilities. It is not obliged to act to any particular manner on Mr. Starr's report, and there are actions it could take short of impeachment that would be meaningful. What it cannot do is ignore an allegation, if one is made, of criminal conduct by a sitting president. However unpalatable this matter has become, Congress has no more right to blink it away than does Mr. Clinton.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

## An Embarrassment

The U.S. president is a person who sometimes must ask people in the ranks to die for the country. The president is a person who asks people close around him to serve the government for less money than their talents would bring elsewhere. The president sometimes requires that people out to the country sacrifice their dollars or their convenience for national goals. All he is asked to provide in return is trustworthiness, loyalty and judgment. These concentric circles of the national family simply want the president to have enough character not to abuse their devotion.

President Bill Clinton has failed that simple test abjectly, not merely with undignified private behavior in a revered place, but with his cavalier response to public concern. That is why the cursory speech he made before departing on vacation probably did him more harm than good.

That is also why there is a tidal feeling of betrayal and embarrassment running across the country today, from the grass roots to the White House staff.

All day Tuesday the speech was panned on editorial pages and by talk show callers in states that Mr. Clinton carried. Rather than rallying to him, many congressional Democrats were openly critical or sour and silent. Although polls just after the speech looked all right, his Gallup personal approval rating, which stood at 60 percent two weeks ago, hit 40 percent on Tuesday. The same poll found that 58 percent thought that he should have made an outright apology.

It was, instead, a speech that left no one happy, except perhaps for that infallibly amusing ranter James Carville. Apology, the essential word for such remarks, was missing entirely, as well as any hint of awareness of the inexcusable carelessness with which Mr. Clinton has treated people.

Let us stipulate that lying to his family and evading questions before the grand jury should be dealt with in other venues, and consider only the violations of the contract of presidential obligation. Expressing regret for creating a "false impression" is not an adequate response when he lied to the American people for seven months. He lied to members of Congress in the Roosevelt Room. He has sent federal employees out to lie in his behalf, dispatching them like personal rather than public servants to argue passionately a position he knew to be false.

It is, perhaps, not surprising. Judgment and a sense of moral proportion

## Other Comment

## The Tone of the Coverage

The tone of the coverage has been orgiastic from the moment the Pope was dumped in Cuba. For every factual development there have been days of prurient speculation and open longing for what in the porno biz is called "the mommy shot" (the still elusive dress).

On Monday, even when there was no information to be had about what was going on in the White House Map Room, television anchors interviewed each other on replayed a recording piece about cyber-optic cable rather than devote appreciable air time to say, the story in Northern Ireland.

— Frank Rich, commenting in *The New York Times*.

## The Clinton Presidency Has Gone On Too Long

By David S. Broder

WASHINGTON — Bill Clinton has offered a semi-honest account of his relationship with Monica Lewinsky in a desperate bid to hold onto his office and avoid legal charges that could lead to impeachment.

He said in his brief and tight-lipped speech on Monday it was time to move on to the serious work of the nation. He also said it was "nobody's business but ours," meaning himself and his family.

Would that it were so. But he made it Americans' business, the nation's burden, first by showing utter disrespect for the high office he holds and second by refusing all this time to do what he alone could do: clear up the matter.

Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, who reported the Watergate story for *The Washington Post*, have been arguing for months for "a sense of proportion." Consensual sex between adults, they rightly point out, is not the same as organizing a secret police operation in the White House and involving the FBI and the CIA in the cover-up of officially sanctioned crimes. But in one respect what Mr. Clinton has done is every bit as bad as what Richard Nixon did.

Like Mr. Nixon, who knew from the moment the Watergate break-in occurred what had really happened, Mr. Clinton knew from the first moment he was questioned about the White House intern what had been going on between them. Instead of owning up, he lied.

He not only lied to Paula Jones's lawyers, he lied to the public and to his closest political associates, and implicated the leaders of his party and his government in the deception. The selfishness of that act is staggering.

Two men who had served him loyally and well, former chief of staff Leon Panetta and former counselor George Stephanopoulos, were among the first to call on him last January to make a clean break at once of whatever he knew. They recognized instantly the peril to their party if Mr. Clinton thought only of saving his own skin.

Others still in government were equally heartsick, but less outspoken. A member of the cabinet who heard Mr. Clinton deny the charges to the assembled department heads said pri-

vately at the time, "He sat there and lied to us, and no one said a word."

Vice President Al Gore, who must have had his private doubts, has publicly and repeatedly proclaimed faith in his leader, doing incalculable damage to his own chances of being elected president.

After the speech on Monday, White House spokesmen said the president "felt as if a burden had been lifted from his shoulders." It is light, compared with the burden of falsehood he placed on others who put their trust in him.

In all those respects, Mr. Clinton's behavior is truly Nixonian.

And it is worse in one way. Mr. Nixon's actions, however criminal, were motivated by and connected to the exercise of presidential power. He knew the place as occupied and he was determined not to give it up to those he regarded as "enemies."

Mr. Clinton acted, and still acts, as if he does not recognize what it means to be president of the United States.

This office he sought all his life, for what? To hit on an intern about the age of his own daughter, an act for which any business executive or military

officer would be fired immediately?

The issue of his marriage vows truly is between him and Hillary Rodham Clinton. But the Oval Office, where he conducted his meetings with Ms. Lewinsky, belongs to the nation. When he told the American people, "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky," he was speaking at an official ceremony held in the White House, our White House.

Betty Currie, the secretary whom he tried to involve in the cover-up, is on the public payroll. The same is true of the White House lawyers and aides and the Secret Service agents whose successors now will be much less useful to future presidents because of the futile legal fight Mr. Clinton conducted to shield their testimony.

Like Mr. Nixon, he has done things of importance for the country. But in every important way he has diminished the stature and reduced the authority of the presidency. He may hold on, but when he said of the investigation of his activities, "This has gone on too long," his words could equally well have applied to his own tenure.

The Washington Post.

## Unworthy Leadership From a Corrupt Couple in the White House

By George E. Will

WASHINGTON — Eaten to a honeycomb by corruption, Bill Clinton's presidency effectively ended with his defiantly eccentric claim that his lying in the judicial process about sex to the White House was all a matter of his private life.

And there he goes again, lying about prior lies: "My answers were legally accurate" in the Jones deposition, in which he said he had no memory of being alone with the intern whom he was a precise memory of doing something "not appropriate." (Perhaps using the salad fork on the entrée?)

Comered after seven months by, among many other things, a dress about which he knows the truth, he says he must "take complete responsibility" for having oral sex without having sexual relations.

He says he never asked anyone to tamper with evidence, which means that one fine day Betty Currie bad, like a bolt from the blue, the unprompted idea to ask the intern to hand over the presidential gifts. In

corrigible skeptics may wish to bear from Ken Starr, who should rise to the challenge of Mr. Clinton's recidivism.

Mr. Clinton's most canine supporters have been reduced to the appropriate chore of identifying innocuous lies and permissible perjuries, and he has no remaining shred of public purpose, only the personal project of clinging to office.

Straining to drain this episode of any public significance and fill it with private bashes, he can be glimpsed hiding behind the skirts of this argument: Hillary forgives him, so the country should, too. The argument's twofold flaw is that it supposes that Hillary is exemplary, and that the nation is a mere bystander at a marital spat.

The grotesque pantomime of domesticity that the Clintons perform in public is as preposterous as the portrait of Mrs. Clinton as an tormented innocent. For some reason (upward mobility? just a guess) she has struck a Faustian bargain, choosing to live, for decades,

a life of fraudulent pretense. This long training in mendacity has come in handy in her dissensions about her roles in the \$100,000 cattle futures windfall (a bribe? no, beginner's luck, she says); in a land fraud and elusive billing records pertaining thereto; in cruelties and abuses of power in the Travel Office purge; in the lawlessness of her health care task force ("disbursed ...

this type of conduct is reprehensible ... officials run amok," said a federal judge); to the hiring of Craig Livingstone (keeper of the FBI files); and later.

Regarding her husband's in-torn-y, Mrs. Clinton has been either willfully ignorant, or, much more likely, her anti-defenses of her husband (he's a victim of a vast right-wing conspiracy, leavened by Arkansas-phobia) have been lies.

Opposites may attract, but that did not happen when Bill met Hillary, so the nation should not take its bearings

from her berserk moral compass. Rather, it must understand why impeachment, although perhaps not necessary given the president's abject and neutered status, was provided by the Founders to deal with an officeholder who acts "in such a manner as to render him unworthy of being any longer trusted." (Federalist 70)

Elliot Richardson resigned as attorney general rather than execute President Richard Nixon's order to fire special prosecutor Archibald Cox, and later.

"There is a serious risk when you investigate corruption. You may do more harm than good if all you do is poke a stick in a muddy pool and stir up the mud without clarifying the water. ... Politicians govern their conduct in the light of past experiences."

Impeachment is a means of clarification for politicians who believe that anything is permitted that is not forbidden by criminal statutes or other "controlling legal authority."

Impeachment is not a "constitutional crisis," it is a re-

medial mechanism provided for political hygiene. The debacles that made Mr. Nixon and now Mr. Clinton eligible for impeachment are alike in being not about the incidents that precipitated them (a burglary, sex) but about the rule of law. The debacles are dissimilar in a way that makes Mr. Clinton's more pregnant with potential long-term civic debasement.

Mr. Nixon tried to survive by hiding evidence from the public. Mr. Clinton has tried that, too, but his primary strategy, advanced through compliant surrogates, has been to corrupt the public by encouraging indifference to evidence of brazen deceit about scabrous behavior.

John Adams said, "There never was yet a people who may not have somebody or something to represent the dignity of the state." Mr. Clinton's little legacy will be a quickened understanding of the indispensable nature of the sort of dignity from which he has been such a tawdry subtraction.

Washington Post Writers Group.

## Abuse of Jews Does Not Justify Abuse of Palestinians

By Eitan Felner

our long history of persecution.

Living in Israel, it is not hard to justify our self-perception as victims. Suicide bombings by Israeli cities have killed and maimed dozens of civilians in recent years. Israel remains in a state of war with half its neighbors. This reality is easily read in terms of our collective memory as victims.

Yet our identity as the eternal victim prevents us from realizing that today we are not only victims. Just as some victims of child abuse turn into victimizers as adults, we, Israelis, having assumed a position of power over others, have ourselves become victimizers.

Torture's stigma prompts most nations to deny any use of

force in interrogations, but the Israeli public, at large, supports the use of torture as a legitimate means to defend security.

Israel's resort to collective forms of punishment provokes a similar response.

In the past 10 years, Israel has demolished more than 400 houses of family members of Palestinians suspected of violent acts against Israel. No public outcry has been raised about this policy, which has rendered homeless hundreds of innocent people, many of them children and the elderly.

Israel's public opinion has also remained indifferent to the blatantly discriminatory manner to which this policy is applied. Only Palestinians are subjected to collective punishments.

The use of torture by the Israeli security service is routine. Thousands of Palestinian detainees are violently shaken, kept for days in excruciating positions, denied sleep for prolonged periods or subjected to extremes of noise, cold and filth. Israeli officials publicly acknowledge such practices.

Torture's stigma prompts most nations to deny any use of

Palestinians into the new generation of "abused children." As such, Palestinians often justify the sufferings caused by suicide bombs in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem by the affliction we cause to them. This in turn reinforces our self-perception as perennial victims.

This cycle of victimhood has profound effects on the potential for a negotiated settlement of the conflict. A peace process has begun, yet a peace based on human rights violations is fragile at its core. Collective punishment, brutality and needless humiliation diminish the willingness for reconciliation and compromise.

Milestones are often an occasion for introspection. This year Israel celebrated its 50th anniversary and the international community is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is a timely opportunity to recognize and begin to address our syndrome.

We must not forget the past, but neither can we let our painful history make us complacent toward the suffering we cause to others.

The writer is executive director of B'Tselem, the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories, and a former chairperson of Amnesty International. He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

## Stonewalling on the Covenant

By Ron Pundak

that challenged Israel's right to exist in peace and security and conflicted with the PLO's new determination to solve all conflicts peacefully.

In the same letter, Mr. Arafat also undertook to win official approval from the Palestine National Council for amendments to the covenant. This letter was drafted with the cooperation of the Israeli government and was sent only after Mr. Rabin had approved it in the right direction.

The Israeli government's invention is that Palestinians do not want peace and that their real goal is to destroy Israel. The main evidence of this is said to be the notorious Palestinian Covenant, written more than 30 years ago, which is filled with clauses denying Israel's right to exist.

Israel accuses Yasser Arafat and his Palestine Liberation Organization of not fulfilling their commitment to nullify those articles of the covenant that deny Israel's existence and thereby contradict the goal of achieving peace. The obvious answer, according to this logic, is to halt the peace negotiations.

It is high time for an honest assessment of the covenant and its amendment. As a participant in the negotiations in Oslo from day one in 1993, I can testify to the truth.

At the outset of the negotiations, Mr. Arafat sent Yitzhak Rabin, who was then Israel's prime minister, written confirmation that the agreement with Israel would supersede all those clauses in the covenant

annulled. The same clauses appeared in a list prepared by the Israeli cabinet. That list is unequivocal.

In fact, only a few of the original articles of the decades-old Palestinian covenant remain intact. To calm the skeptics, Mr. Arafat also pointed out that these changes would be reflected in all future publications of the covenant.

The Netanyahu government reacted with scorn. It now demands, as a precondition to the next territorial withdrawal, that the Palestine National Council endorse Mr. Arafat's letter to Mr. Clinton. This is a transparent ploy, since the council's sweeping decision, made in 1996, should be enough.

The Clinton administration has proposed a compromise: that the PLO executive council ratify Mr. Arafat's letter. The Palestinians have agreed to this idea but the Israeli government has not. No wonder the Palestinian opposition has reached the conclusion, perhaps justified, that Mr. Netanyahu is intent on leading the two nations into yet another war.

Then the Israeli right, including the new government led by Mr. Netanyahu, attacked the decision as unsatisfactory, arguing that it did not specify which clauses in the covenant had been annulled.

So, within the framework of the Hebron negotiations in January 1997, Israel made its approval conditional on Mr. Arafat's

## OPINION/LETTERS

## Flash Points to Watch as the News From Asia Worsens

ASPEN, Colorado — Asia's time of living dangerously is far from over.

A year of economic calamity has erased a generation of prosperity in some Pacific Rim nations. The financial collapse has set the stage for more tumult and conflict, challenging U.S. interests across a region that many Americans recently saw as a new El Dorado.

This assessment comes from some of America's leading experts on Asia. Gathered here by The Aspen Institute for a workshop over a long August weekend, government officials, academics, economists and other professionals analyzed a surprisingly detailed consensus on Asian flash points ahead.

If they are right, these are headlines likely to come from Asia in future months:

• Starvation stalks Indonesia and North Korea.

• Indonesia's food distribution system, once largely in the hands of ethnic Chinese traders, has been dismantled by the flight of those

traders after pogroms directed against them. The government's subsidizing of the price of rice has led to massive smuggling to neighboring countries with higher prices. The economic collapse has sunk half of Indonesia's population deep into poverty.

North Korea's food shortages also continue to be acute, according to a U.S. official who has canvassed relief organizations working in North Korea and a number of intelligence agencies. Estimates of starvation deaths in North Korea over the past three years range from 2 million — to 6 million. Relief organizations that have grown weary of North Korea's Stalinist restrictions may soon suspend or reduce their efforts, creating more pressure on the erratic Pyongyang regime.

• The U.S.-negotiated agreement that froze North Korea's nuclear weapons development in 1994 is coming apart.

By Jim Hoagland

Japan, South Korea and the U.S. Congress have all had second thoughts about sending more economic aid and fuel oil to Pyongyang as the deal mandates. This reluctance had formed before the discovery this month that North Korea was working on a new secret facility that may violate the accord.

That discovery could be the nail in the coffin of the agreement, which pulled North Korea and the United States back from military conflict.

• The credibility of the International Monetary Fund and other multilateral organizations suffers great damage in Asia.

Russia's devaluation of the ruble days after receiving assurances of a new \$23 billion rescue package points up this danger.

Asian countries have watched the United States and Germany push the IMF to bend its rules for Russia, overlooking Moscow's failure to live up to conditions the IMF has imposed with severity on Asian nations.

The decision by the U.S. Treasury not to take a leadership role on rescue financing or debt rescheduling for Indonesia shows a lack of U.S. strategic interest in the world's most populous Muslim nation.

Indonesia's membership in the Association of South East Asian Nations and other regional organizations, as well as in OPEC, has not helped alleviate its burdens. ASEAN's pretensions and its underlying ineffectiveness have been exposed in a particularly harsh fashion by the crisis.

• Nuclear testing by India and Pakistan alters the global order.

Another thesis argued here was that in the Pacific, economic, political and military power is rapidly shifting from Japan to China. One sign: Although Japan has provided billions of dollars in financial aid to the distressed Asian countries, praise is lavished only on China for responsible behavior and Japan's efforts are ignored.

Some participants voiced unease at the imbalance in the Clinton ad-

ministration's ardent attentions to Beijing and its constant badgering of Tokyo. Others pronounced this as the inevitable or desirable new order.

For me, the workshop was eye-opening and alarming. Asia, where the United States has fought two unsuccessful ground wars since World War II, has returned to being a region of unpredictability and danger rather than one of immediate opportunity and long-term stability.

The discussions left me pondering two overarching questions that may be too important to leave to the experts: Were the last 20 years of prosperity and relative calm an Asian aberration? And why does Asia seem so consistently to surprise even those who pay the most attention to it?

There are no easy or quick answers to these questions. But a non-expert comes away from this exchange of views feeling there is something in the American angle of vision of Asia that is flawed, but which Asia's reality is compelled to correct from time to time.

*The Washington Post*

## U.S.-Russia Summit: Clinton's Big Chance

By Michael McFaul

sider instituting emergency rule. In this highly charged atmosphere, Clinton pronouncements about the importance of START-2 or the evils of trading with Iran will look trivial.

Instead, Mr. Clinton needs to deliver messages about the importance of capitalism and democracy in Russia and

would be better than direct transfers of money to the Russian government because the market will know that the money will not be squandered.

Mr. Clinton needs to compel Mr. Yeltsin to think boldly. At this stage Mr. Yeltsin has no good options but must choose between bad and worse.

Mr. Clinton's message regarding Russian democracy must be equally blunt. While imperfect, Russia has made progress in consolidating an electoral democracy and Mr. Clinton should recognize publicly these achievements.

However, Mr. Clinton must deliver a private but firm message to Mr. Yeltsin and other Russian leaders about the negative consequences of circumventing the democratic process — an idea that has become increasingly popular in elite Moscow circles as the prospect of major economic downfall becomes more likely.

Authoritarian rule is wrong for Russia and any attempt to implement it would fail.

Many Americans have grown weary of Russia as achievements have been few and headaches many. But now is not the time to give up on Russia. Only seven years since the Soviet collapse, Russia's revolution has by no means ended. Russia's current leaders are still committed to developing a market economy and a democratic polity, and it is in the vital national interest of the United States to ensure that this trajectory continues.

No one has a greater interest in promoting the consolidation of democracy and capitalism in Russia than President Clinton. If Russia eventually succeeds in becoming a member of the international community of democratic states, Mr. Clinton will have secured his place in history as an important foreign policy president.

The writer, professor of political science at Stanford University, is a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He contributed this comment to the Los Angeles Times.

ideas and programs to assist the Russians in achieving these ends.

The Clinton administration demonstrated leadership in responding aggressively to Russia's recent financial crisis. Mr. Clinton must now follow up this bailout package with a tough-love message that no future bailouts will be forthcoming unless fundamental reforms are finally undertaken.

Mr. Clinton must call on the Russian government to get serious about closing bankrupt enterprises, to sell off assets and to make credible commitments to implement its anti-crisis program, including a more concerted effort to collect taxes from both corporations and individuals.

After delivering this blunt message to Mr. Yeltsin and his government, Mr. Clinton must provide creative solutions to help the Russian government avoid bankruptcy. More expensive IMF bailout packages offer only temporary solutions. Rather, Mr. Clinton should explore the possibility of a massive debt swap of short-term Russian Treasury bills for long-term U.S. Treasury bills. A sovereign debt swap

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## About Clinton

In the Anglo-American democratic tradition, the great principle of the rule of law means that the people who are responsible for government are not above the law. It is a perversion of that principle to treat the sins of such people as crimes, or to put a person into the position of having to confess publicly his sin in order to avoid committing a crime.

Such a thing might have seemed reasonable to the Holy Inquisition. Given human fallibility, it is not a possible basis for democratic government.

PHILIP ALLOTT,  
Cambridge, England.

What has the "moral minority" in the United States — the Christian ayatollahs and others — done to the dignity, the integrity and the reputation of the U.S. Constitution and the rule of law? They have reduced the

great principles of the separation of powers and the independence of the judiciary and the judicial process to the level of a sleazy cabaret.

Kenneth Starr, a pontificating humbug of an unconstructed Puritan, solemnly asks the president of the United States about the details of his sexual life. Mr. Starr and his allies have made the United States the laughingstock of the entire planet.

GERARD MULHOLLAND,  
Chevilly-Larue, France.

President Clinton may have suffered "a lapse in judgment," but the Republicans have set up a potentially disastrous situation for themselves in the November congressional elections.

Once again, this time through the misguided offices of Kenneth Starr, the Republicans have become identified with a "moral majority" that in reality does not exist in America. Moreover, most Americans demonstrated an

aversion to such a concept in the 1992 and 1996 elections.

Mr. Starr has relentlessly pursued a private matter of the president's with taxpayers' dollars, for which neither he nor the Republican Party will be forgiven.

Do not underestimate the political abilities of President Clinton. In November heads will roll, and they will not be Democratic ones.

M. J. MAURER,  
Rome.

Regarding "Leave Clinton Alone" (Letters, Aug. 11):

The majority of the letter writers missed the point: President Bill Clinton's extramarital affairs are irrelevant. The point is that Mr. Clinton is a congenital liar.

OLGA PICURL,  
Kilchberg, Switzerland.

President Clinton has well earned the sobriquet the Great Equivocator.

WILLIAM GREENWAY,  
Paris.

Mr. Friedman says that America lacks resolve and instead forgives and forgets outrages committed against the country and its interests.

In substance his conclusion may be correct, but what Mr. Friedman seems to forget is the unbelievable pressure the American president is under from Congress, the media and, generally, the incomprehensible U.S. legal system (which makes a Kenneth Starr possible).

How in heaven can any human being resolve anything if he is hindered in the way President Bill Clinton has been for the past six months or more?

HANS ULRICH FISCHER,  
Riehen, Switzerland.

Regarding "Saga of a Statue: The Struggles of Rodin's Balzac" (Features, Aug. 15):

How could Baudelaire have praised Rodin's statue of Balzac — first displayed in 1898 — since by that time the poet had been dead for more than 30 years?

I suspect that he used a medium. Spiritualism was widely practiced in Paris at the turn of the last century.

MARK GOODMAN,  
Paris.

Regarding "Leave Clinton Alone" (Letters, Aug. 11):

The majority of the letter writers missed the point: President Bill Clinton's extramarital affairs are irrelevant. The point is that Mr. Clinton is a congenital liar.

HANS ULRICH FISCHER,  
Riehen, Switzerland.

Credit card charges will be made in French Francs at current exchange rates.

MARK GOODMAN,  
Paris.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

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## Would-Be Teachers Who Know Nothing

By Sheila Schwartz

NEW YORK — The failings of "student centered" learning have received a good deal of attention recently. Much of the criticism is just. But this methodology is a relatively small part of the problem with America's current educational programs.

The inadequate liberal arts training many prospective teachers receive and the low caliber of the people who choose to become teachers are more serious problems.

I retired last spring after teaching English education for 35 years. Many of my graduate students had majored in

## MEANWHILE

English. In theory, then, they should have had a firm grasp of language arts and literature. But this was often not the case. Over time I saw a steady decline in the quality of these future teachers.

Many had writing skills that ranged from depressing to horrifying. A disturbing number could not write a lucid sentence or paragraph.

They did not take kindly to my insistence that they master the fundamentals.

"Nobody ever made such a fuss about these things before," more than one aggrieved student complained. "What difference does it make how we say it if we make our points about the content?"

Others argued that it was unfair to penalize them if their computer spelling checkers had failed to pick up errors. One student, whose writing was full of grammatical mistakes and misspellings, marched into my office with her husband from West Point — in dress uniform, his chest covered with ribbons — because her feelings had been hurt by my insistence on correct spelling.

In one of my courses, the curriculum included classics such as "The Scarlet Letter," "Moby Dick," "Huckleberry Finn" and "To Kill a Mockingbird," which are taught in high schools. Some of my students last semester objected to the reading list. "Must we read 'Moby Dick'?" asked one. "It's too long and boring." "It's not fair to make us read 'Gulliver's Travels,'" said another. "It's too hard to understand."

One student, who belonged to a local fundamentalist group, thought that Elie Wiesel's "Night," "The Diary of Anne Frank" and George Orwell's "1984" would not be "good" for the teenagers she would someday be teaching and urged me to substitute "more cheerful" works.

Another insisted that the theme of "To Kill a Mockingbird" was that "all people are basically nice." When I questioned that conclusion, she burst into tears and left the class, and I was reprimanded by the assistant dean for having standards that were "too high."

We seem to have reached the point described in Kurt Vonnegut's futuristic short story "Harrison Bergeron" in which everyone must be dragged down to the lowest common denominator because, in a democracy, we don't want any hurt feelings.

The poor quality of teachers is a prime reason that U.S. public schools are in such bad shape. Why should the self-esteem of mediocre teacher candidates be placed above the needs of the children they are being trained to teach?

The writer recently retired from the State University of New York at New Paltz, where she taught English education. She contributed this to The New York Times.



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## EUROPE

# Olivetti Faces Inquiry Under New Disclosure Rules

Bloomberg News

MILAN — Italian regulators said Wednesday they were taking on the country's second-largest telecommunications company, in the first test of new rules designed to instill U.S.-style transparency in Italy's murky corporate world.

Securities regulator Consob said it would investigate Olivetti's 7.4 percent share surge Tuesday, which

it described as "anomalous."

The shares rose after Silvio Scaglia, chief executive of Olivetti's mobile phone unit, Omnitel Pronto Italia SpA, revealed July's growth in mobile phone subscriptions at a Mannesmann AG analyst meeting in Dusseldorf without informing the Italian market.

Mr. Scaglia, the chief executive of Omnitel, announced that his company had signed 500,000 new sub-

scribers during July, bringing its total to 4.4 million.

Omnitel is Europe's fourth-largest mobile phone company. Olivetti owns it through a joint venture with Mannesmann.

The number of new subscribers exceeded analysts' expectations. It suggested that Omnitel was making inroads into the market share of its bigger competitor, Telecom Italia Mobile SpA.

Consob will try to determine whether disclosure rules were violated. Consob may also inquire about possible insider trading.

This will be the first investigation of its kind since the adoption of a corporate reform law on July 17. The law was drafted by the director-general of the treasury, Mario Draghi.

Olivetti had no comment on the investigation.

Olivetti's shares traded at around

4,000 lire (\$2.25) for most of the day Tuesday. Then, at about 2:30 P.M., they shot up. By the time the Milan exchange closed, at 5 P.M., the shares were up 291 lire, at a record high of 4,230 lire.

On Wednesday, Olivetti's shares closed lower at 4,120 lire.

Olivetti's behavior was not unusual. Companies have routinely announced earnings at meetings with selected investors or analysts. Companies have sometimes barred journalists from such meetings. Press releases have often followed later, if at all.

The corporate reform law of last month seeks to change that.

A spokesman for Consob said that Omnitel "clearly" violated Article 114.

That article says that companies must inform the Consob and the Italian Exchange at least 15 minutes before releasing important information while the market is open.

"It is clear at this point that communication rules have been broken," the Consob spokesman said.

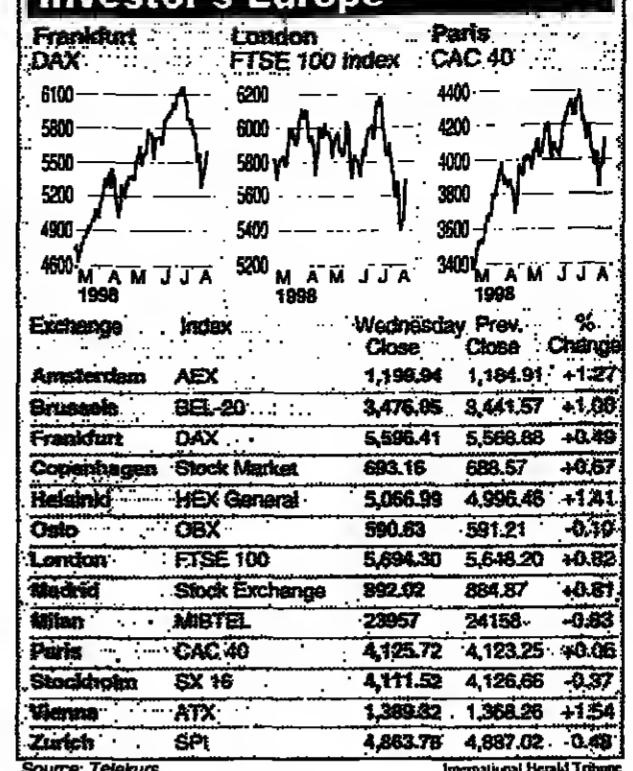
"But what we are looking at is the fact of anomalous share movements, and possibilities that something else may have happened here."

The penalty for violating this rule can be a fine of 10 million lire to 200 million lire. These would be symbolic amounts for a company like Olivetti.

Insider trading, however, would be an offense punishable by stiff fines or even prison sentences.

The Olivetti case is also the first such inquiry since Luigi Spaventa, the former chairman of the bank Monte dei Paschi di Siena SpA, took over as chairman of Consob. He replaced Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa in May.

## Investor's Europe



Source: Telekurs International Herald Tribune

## KKR Set to Acquire Hoechst Paint Unit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — Hoechst AG said Wednesday that it had agreed to sell its Herberts paint unit to Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. for \$1.7 billion and that second-quarter net income had surged 80 percent on asset sales.

For Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the acquisition would be its biggest European investment to date, and it said more deals were in the offing.

A general partner at KKR, Clifton Robbins, said the deal signaled a sharper focus by the buyout specialist on Europe, where corporate restructuring is creating major opportunities.

"KKR has been quite active in Europe and expects to be even more so," he said.

"We feel there are a lot of opportunities to pursue in Europe and we do have a pipeline of a variety of things that we are looking at seriously."

Hoechst's shares rose 70 pfennigs, or 0.8 percent, to 81.50 DM (\$45.23), on the higher-than-expected earnings and on the view the company was fulfilling its goal of shifting into higher-margin businesses.

Hoechst's net income for the three months ended June 30 rose 80 percent to 693 million DM, up from profit of 384 million DM in the same period a year earlier. Hoechst attributed the big increase to one-time gains from sales of subsidiaries.

Sales fell 22 percent to 11.44 billion DM. Hoechst said that revenue had been by the Asian economic

crisis as well as by the absence of revenue from the companies it had sold.

The company had previously warned that 1998 would be a difficult year.

"Additionally, we face challenges posed by the changes and discontinuity — acquisitions, divestitures, spin-offs — underlying the ongoing transformation of Hoechst into a life sciences group," said the chief executive, Jürgen Dörmann.

Hoechst is shifting away from bulk chemicals, an industry that has traditionally fluctuated sharply along with the business cycle.

While Hoechst is profitable, KKR, the biggest U.S. buyout firm, said the division could grow better "with an entrepreneurial focus."

"The earnings top expectations, but more importantly it looks as if the company is finally fulfilling its promises and concentrating on its core business" of pharmaceuticals, said Thilo Steiger, a manager at Axa Fondsmanagement in Wiesbaden, Germany. (Bloomberg, AP, Reuters)

## Demand for Gold Rebounds

Bloomberg News

LONDON — Demand for gold worldwide rose 50 percent in the three months ended June 30 from the previous quarter, although it was still 9 percent lower than the same period in 1997, the World Gold Council said Wednesday.

East Asia's economic woes more than halved global gold consumption in the first three months of the year as government-organized collections of jewelry by countries such as South Korea made those nations net sellers of gold as they bid to raise cash. Gold is trading at \$285.50 an ounce.

Gold prices fell 22 percent to 11.44 billion DM. Hoechst said that revenue had been by the Asian economic

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Daily prices in U.S. dollars

Telefers

High Low Close Prev.

Amsterdam AEX index 129.94 Previous: 129.51

Antwerp 50.40 49.40 50.10 49.20

Barbados 27.99 26.90 27.20 26.50

Belgium 43.26 41.50 42.20 42.50

Bermuda 14.21 13.80 14.40 14.00

Bolivia 24.50 24.50 24.50 24.50

Bosnia 10.00 9.80 10.00 10.10

Brazil 91.40 89.50 90.90 89.50

Bulgaria 77.90 77.10 77.20 77.40

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High Low Close Prev.

Frankfurt DAX 1,264.71 Previous: 1,264.31

London FTSE 100 index 4,000.00 Previous: 3,999.60

Paris

**Wednesday's 4 P.M. Close**

The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day.  
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.

#### ■ **Local and Global**

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12 Month High/Low	Stock	Dw	Yld	PE	100s High	Low	Latest C
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Equipment of all types.

From: Pilled droppings

Continued on Page 16

## ASIA/PACIFIC

# Anxiety in Jakarta Over Rule Change

## Critics Say Privatization Plan Imperiled

By Michael Richardson  
International Herald Tribune

JAKARTA — A government decision this week to change the rules for selling shares in Indonesia's largest cement maker to foreigners threatens the viability of a major privatization program, analysts said Wednesday.

They also said that the decision to delay the final step in the sale of PT Semen Gresik, which is 35 percent owned by the state, and prevent the buyer from gaining majority control would make investors wary of returning to Indonesia just when private foreign capital is most urgently needed to boost growth, jobs and exports in an economy hit by its worst recession in 30 years.

"They are changing the rules at the last minute because of some popular pressure against the sale of assets to foreigners," said Edhi Widjojo, head of research at Mashill Securities. "I think it's a bad signal to investors."

Semen Gresik is one of 12 companies fully or partly owned by the state that the government promised to sell off by the end of March under an agreement with the International Monetary Fund. In return for the pledges of privatization and other sweeping reforms, the IMF organized an emergency loan package worth more than \$40 billion to help stabilize the Indonesian currency and economy.

Jakarta hopes to earn at least \$1.5 billion in foreign exchange from the privatization program to help finance a large budget deficit swollen by the need to subsidize prices of food, fuel and other essentials for an estimated 80 million Indonesians, or 40 percent of the population, who are said by the government to be living below the poverty line.

The Semen Gresik sale was the furthest advanced. Indeed, Wednesday was the deadline fixed by the government for the final round of foreign bids for control of the company.

Mexico's Cemex SA, the world's third-largest cement maker, won the first round of bidding last month when it offered \$287 million for the government's 35 percent stake.

## Ratings Cut for 2 Japan Carmakers



GOOD VIBRATIONS — An employee of Bandai Co. in Tokyo enjoying music conducted to her inner ear through a lollipop inserted in the company's "Silent Shoot" machine, which is to go on sale in September for 1,480 yen (\$10.22) and will be available in a range of music styles.

## Ratings Cut for 2 Japan Carmakers

Coupled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Moody's Investors Service Inc. cut its ratings on the debts of two Japanese automakers, Mitsubishi Motors Corp. and Nissan Motor Corp., on Wednesday, citing worries about their weak earnings.

Both carmakers face serious debt problems, mounting competition and a depressed home market, the credit rating agency said. It said Mitsubishi's ratings outlook was stable but called Nissan's negative because of uncertainty over its debt future.

Moody's lowered its long-term debt rating for Mitsubishi to Baa3 from Baa2, putting it one step above "speculative grade."

The downgrade coincided with a sharp decline in Mitsubishi Motors' stock.

The shares sank to an all-time low of 288 yen (\$1.99) Wednesday morning before closing the day at 291 yen, unchanged from Tuesday.

The stock has fallen 13 yen, or 4.3 percent, this week.

Moody's attributed its action to "mounting difficulties and pressures" that Mitsubishi faces "in its efforts to restore its long-term profitability."

The carmaker says it will lose 26 billion yen in 1999, after it suffered a loss of 102 billion yen last year.

"Mitsubishi has experienced difficulties in its overseas operations and has not kept up with the increased pace of new-product introductions within its home market," Moody's said in a news release.

Moody's cut its long-term debt rating for Nissan from Baa3 to Baa1 in response to "the company's weak financial performance in both its Asian and U.S. operations," the company said.

The agency said that its outlook for Nissan's rating remained negative. This sometimes indicates that

it might lower the rating again.

A lower credit rating is associated with a higher risk for lenders. The action Wednesday will probably raise borrowing costs for the automakers.

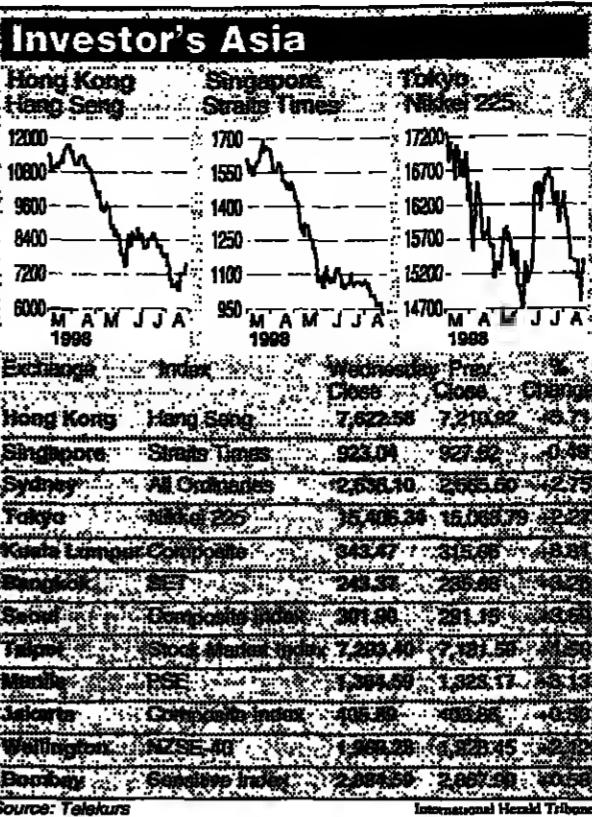
(AP, AFP)

### Deficit Cap Reconsidered

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa of Japan said Wednesday that he would consider trying to abolish legislation that severely restricts government borrowing. Agence France-Presse reported from Tokyo.

The so-called fiscal reform law, passed in November 1997 to help reduce the budget deficit, has been widely criticized for hampering efforts to stimulate the economy with government spending.

Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi has already promised to try to freeze the legislation, suggesting that it need only be suspended for a year, not abolished.



Source: Telekurs

### Very briefly:

• Hyundai Motor Co.'s labor dispute, involving strikes and lockouts, has cost South Korea 1.5 trillion won (\$1.1 billion) in the past three months, according to government officials.

• Ryoko Securities Co. and Dainama Securities Co., two brokerages in the Mitsubishi group of Japan, said they would merge in April to survive financial deregulation in Tokyo.

• Oki Electric Industry Co., the top Japanese maker of communications equipment, has stopped production and sales of mobile phones at its U.S. unit, Oki Telecom Inc.

• Canon Inc.'s pretax profit in the six-month period ended June 30 rose 9.3 percent to \$5.7 billion yen (\$588.2 million) from the like period last year.

• Toyo Tire & Rubber Co. said that Nippon Giant Tyre Co., joint venture with Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. and Mitsubishi Corp., would invest \$9 billion yen to raise output of tires used on earth-moving equipment.

• Toshiba Corp., Japan's second-largest maker of semiconductors, said it would increase by 2001 output of the memory chips used in portable products like mobile phones in a bid to reduce its dependence on the unprofitable memory chips most commonly used in personal computers.

• Thailand has agreed to open up more industries to foreign investors in a bid to stimulate economic growth and meet international trade practices.

AFP, Reuters, Bloomberg

## Hong Kong Stocks Up

Agence France-Presse

HONG KONG — The government pursued its war against speculators Wednesday, sending stocks sharply higher, despite warnings the intervention would distort the market and add to uncertainty.

The benchmark Hang Seng Index closed up 411.66 points, or 5.7 percent at 7,622.58. Dealers attributed the rise to reports that the Hong Kong Monetary Authority was buying Hong Kong dollars as well as a firmer yen and gains on Wall Street.

But the intervention won the government few friends among international investors. Analysts warned that it was only adding to the markets' general uncertainty.

Separately, the Political and Economic Risk Consultancy said Hong Kong was facing its most difficult period in modern times, with public confidence in the government eroded.

## RUSSIA: From Hero to Pariah

Continued from Page 11

be credibility." Mr. Kiryienko also sought zero in the initial plans," said Michael Eggleton, director of fixed income here for Credit Suisse.

The investment house warned that if Russia went ahead, "foreign investors will continue to leave and new investors will not enter. Russia will not obtain the capital and know-how required to revitalize its economy."

Wednesday night, the government hastily backpedaled and said it would bring in J.P. Morgan and Deutsche Bank for help, postponing an announcement on the GKO scheme until Monday.

The government said it would try to defend "all groups of investors."

Emerging market funds that buy debt have suffered far more in the Russian economic upheaval than funds that buy equities. Last October, the Asian turmoil mainly dealt blows to investors in emerging-market stock funds.

"Bonds that were priced at 30 cents on the dollar on Friday fell to 25 cents on Monday and about 21 cents" on Tuesday, said Craig Monroe, manager of the AIM Global High Income fund. In April, when Russian investments accounted for about 12 percent of the AIM fund's \$354 million in assets, the bonds were valued at 64 cents on the dollar.

"The bonds have been trading, but certainly the liquidity is nothing like it was a few weeks ago," Mr. Monroe said. "A lot of fund managers are apparently being told to exit the market. This is a classic end-of-a-meltdown phase we are going through."

At least for now, the AIM fund is holding onto its Russian bonds, he said.

Emerging market funds that buy debt have suffered far more in the Russian economic upheaval than funds that buy equities. Last October, the Asian turmoil mainly dealt blows to investors in emerging-market stock funds.

"There are a number of things they need to do quickly," said Mr. Eggleton.

"You need one voice in the government. It's difficult to know who to go to on this — everyone is scrambling, trying to figure out who to talk to. That, on top of lack of transparency, lack of willingness to bring foreign creditors into the negotiating process."

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Emerging market funds

## NASDAQ

APY 101.50

**Wednesday's 4 P.M.**  
The 1,000 most traded Nasdaq securities  
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.  
The Associated Press.

12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div Yld	PE	1000 High	Low	12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div Yld	PE	1000 High	Low	12 Month	High	Low	Stock	Div Yld	PE	1000 High	Low
29 22	DGE E	1.23	50 18	847	27.7	76.1	24.5	-16	29 13	Southw	1.24	1710077	26.1	26.0	1224	12	13	Unif-4	5.3	17	822	22.9	
46 33	OM Grp	1.05	48 18	904	24.7	23.4	33.2	-16	46 12	Univ	1.25	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.25	18	249	22.5	
84 49	OMI C	1.1	12 18	91	11.9	11.4	11.0	-16	84 22	Univ	1.26	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.26	18	249	22.5	
124 74	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	124 22	Univ	1.27	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.27	18	249	22.5	
141 74	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	141 22	Univ	1.28	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.28	18	249	22.5	
154 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	154 22	Univ	1.29	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.29	18	249	22.5	
164 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	164 22	Univ	1.3	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.3	18	249	22.5	
174 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	174 22	Univ	1.31	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.31	18	249	22.5	
184 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	184 22	Univ	1.32	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.32	18	249	22.5	
194 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	194 22	Univ	1.33	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.33	18	249	22.5	
204 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	204 22	Univ	1.34	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.34	18	249	22.5	
214 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	214 22	Univ	1.35	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.35	18	249	22.5	
224 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	224 22	Univ	1.36	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.36	18	249	22.5	
234 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	234 22	Univ	1.37	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.37	18	249	22.5	
244 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	244 22	Univ	1.38	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.38	18	249	22.5	
254 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	254 22	Univ	1.39	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.39	18	249	22.5	
264 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	264 22	Univ	1.4	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.4	18	249	22.5	
274 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	274 22	Univ	1.41	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.41	18	249	22.5	
284 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	284 22	Univ	1.42	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.42	18	249	22.5	
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304 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	304 22	Univ	1.44	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.44	18	249	22.5	
314 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	314 22	Univ	1.45	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.45	18	249	22.5	
324 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	324 22	Univ	1.46	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.46	18	249	22.5	
334 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	334 22	Univ	1.47	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.47	18	249	22.5	
344 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	344 22	Univ	1.48	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.48	18	249	22.5	
354 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	354 22	Univ	1.49	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.49	18	249	22.5	
364 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	364 22	Univ	1.5	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.5	18	249	22.5	
374 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	374 22	Univ	1.51	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.51	18	249	22.5	
384 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	384 22	Univ	1.52	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.52	18	249	22.5	
394 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	394 22	Univ	1.53	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.53	18	249	22.5	
404 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	404 22	Univ	1.54	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.54	18	249	22.5	
414 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	414 22	Univ	1.55	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.55	18	249	22.5	
424 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	424 22	Univ	1.56	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.56	18	249	22.5	
434 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	434 22	Univ	1.57	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.57	18	249	22.5	
444 18	Orbital	1.05	76 18	363	37.0	37.5	37.0	-16	444 22	Univ	1.58	242	24.2	24.8	1249	15	15	Univ	1.58	18	249	22.5	

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## INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

August 19, 1998

Available on Internet: <http://www.iht.com/IHT/FUN/funds.html>

For information on how to list your fund, see [Kathy Horan](http://www.list.com) at (33-1) 41 43 92 12 or Email : [funds@list.com](mailto:funds@list.com)

To receive free daily quotations for your funds by E-mail : subscribe at [efunds@int.com](mailto:efunds@int.com)

## 999 Other Funds

The data in the list above is the data supplied by the fund groups to Micropal SA. It is collated and reformulated into the list before being transmitted to the IHT. Micropal and the IHT do not warrant the quality or accuracy of the list, the data of the performance of funds of the Fund Groups and will not be liable for the list, the data or funds. Care is now taken. The list is not and shall not be deemed to be an offer by the IHT or Micropal to sell securities or investments of any kind. Investments can fail as well as rise. Past performance does not guarantee future success. It is advisable to seek advice from a qualified independent advisor before investing.

AS - Australian Dollars; AS - Austrian Schilling;  
 BF - Belgian Francs; CA - Canadian Dollars; DM -  
 Deutsche Mark; DK - Danish Kroner; Do - Do;  
 Dollar; ECU - European Currency Unit; FF -  
 French Francs; FI - Finnish Markka; Fr - Dutch  
 Franc; IDR - Indonesian Rupiah; Ls - Italian Lira;  
 LF - Luxembourg Franc; P - Portuguese Escudo; MTH -  
 Malaysian Ringgit; PLN - Polish Zlote; SGD -  
 Singapore Dollars; TH - Swiss Franc; SEK -  
 Swedish Kroner; THB - Thai Baht; Y - Yen

a - asked + Offer Prices; N/A - Not Available;  
 NC - Not Communicated; N - New; S -  
 suspended; SGD stock Split; Ex-Dividend; --  
 Ex-Rate; @ Offer Price incl. 3% premium charge;  
 - Parts exchange; -- American exchange; a -  
 announced earlier; x - not available; with  
 regularity unknown; M - Market and current  
 price; E - estimated price; y - price calculated  
 2 days prior to publication; z - bid price.

The marginal symbols indicate frequency of  
 quotations: a/b/c/d/e/f/g/h/i/j/k/l/m/n/o/p/q/r/s/t/u/v/w/x/y/z

# International Herald Tribune Sports

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1998

## WORLD ROUNDUP

## Spain Seeks Scalp

The Spanish Olympic Committee said Wednesday it would demand the resignation of Prince Alexandre de Merode, the International Olympic Committee's anti-doping chief, unless he retracts accusations that the Spanish were lax on drugs in sport.

"One must not forget that Spanish sports, for a long time, has had tendencies toward doping," de Merode had said.

• Paolo Negro, an Italian international defender, said Wednesday that players at Lazio, the Italian Serie A team, had taken creatine when Zdenek Zeman was coach.

Negro was speaking after testifying before an anti-doping panel of the Italian Olympic Committee. The investigation was triggered by comments by Zeman, now the coach at Roma, on drug use in Italian soccer.

Negro said the team had stopped using creatine since Sven Goran Eriksson had taken over.

"When it became apparent creatine didn't have the desired effects, it was taken off the list of administered drugs," Negro said.

Creatine is an amino acid that occurs naturally in the body and plays a role in muscle contraction. Its use is legal. (Reuters)

• French police are to question seven more TVM cyclists in Reims on Thursday. The team's doctor, Andrei Mikhailov, has been in custody since the seizure of substances from TVM vans during the Tour de France. (AP)

Maradona Returns, Again

soccer Diego Maradona is planning a seventh comeback to play friendly matches for Badajoz of the Spanish second division, his manager, Guillermo Coppola, said. He said Maradona would probably play for Badajoz in September or in October, when he will turn 38. Badajoz is partly owned by Marcelo Tinelli, an Argentine TV celebrity. (AP)

• Coventry City of the English Premier League made a £500,000 (\$875,000) profit on the transfer of Robert Jarni, even though he never played for them. Jarni is to join Real Madrid, which made its bid after the Croatian had agreed to join Coventry from Real Betis. (Reuters)

Sacramento Fires Coach

BASKETBALL The Sacramento Kings fired coach Eddie Jordan, who led the team to a 27-55 record last season. (AP)

Argentina Reaches Cup

RUGBY UNION Argentina and Canada secured two of the American places in the 1999 World Cup in Wales with victories in Buenos Aires on Tuesday. Argentina (2-0) crushed Uruguay (0-2), 55-0. Canada (2-0) beat the United States (0-2), 31-14. The United States and Uruguay play Saturday; the winner will also qualify. (Reuters)

## Tennis Comes to Grip With Steroid Threat

### 'Tons Out There,' and Not All Sold Illegally

By Robin Finn  
New York Times Service

using something that contains an anabolic substance," he said. "They think it's natural, it's pure, it's good for me. And that is an absolute fallacy."

The Nor-Andro 19 in the supplement Reeves chose is a product that, according to Dr. Jones, "is the new kid on the block, the popular one right now. It's not a testostrone type of steroid, and the labs originally weren't testing for it. It's offered as a food supplement and marketed as a performance and training enhancer that increases muscle strength, mass and endurance."

Only one other player, Ignacio Trujillo of Spain, has been formally found to have used steroids.

Reeves, a well-regarded amateur finding her way through her first season on the women's professional tennis circuit, said it was her desire to get back into shape quickly after an ankle injury late in 1997 that led her to experiment with a newfangled "all-natural" dietary supplement, apparently on the recommendation of a friend.

The product promised to help her burn fat and build muscle, and it was readily available over the counter at health-food stores. It sounded like the answer to her prayers: a training and diet aid that would help her get fit quickly.

"No sport is immune anymore," said Dr. Donna Smith of Substance Abuse Management, the company that administers tennis' anti-doping program. "Wherever you have issues of injury recovery and athletes intent on maximizing their training, you're going to see this stuff."

Reeves' decision to use the product backfired badly. Required to submit a urine sample at an event last December, she failed the test. The dietary product, it turned out, had contained Nor-Andro 19, a variation on the classic steroid nandrolone and one of the substances banned by the sport.

And so Reeves, despite her assertion that she had no intention of taking anything aimed at improperly aiding her performance, became the first female tennis player ever to have tested positive for steroids.

The International Tennis Federation, or ITF, which governs the sport, ultimately did not discipline Reeves, who is ranked 106th in the world.

Citing her age — she turned 19 earlier this year — and inexperience, and apparently accepting her claim that she was unaware of the presence of steroids in the product, the federation instead called the loog and embarrassing ordeal of testing, investigation and public disclosure "a sanction in itself."

Alan James, an ITF spokesman, said the investigation "proved Reeves guilty of taking the banned substance and, although the decision against any further punishment is arguably lenient, if caught again, she could face a life ban as a second offender."

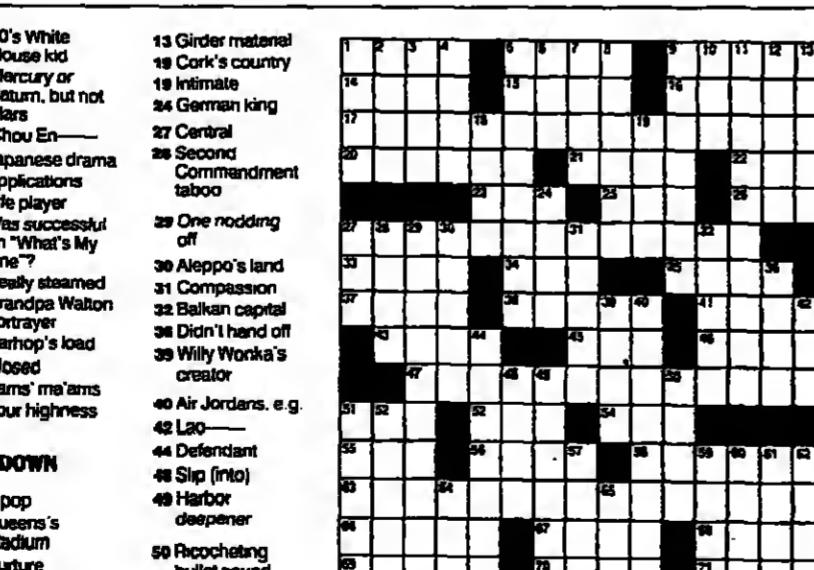
Dr. Alan Jones, a pharmacologist at the University of Mississippi who acts as the toxicology consultant for the company that administers drug testing for the men's and women's tours and for the ITF, said:

"Tennis is a sport I would not have thought would be steroid-involved, but there are tons of steroids out there these days, and they're not all coming from the black market." Dr. Jones said numerous high-tech steroids are being marketed as simple food supplements and training aids and sold everywhere from the Internet to health-food stores.

"It's conceivable that a player could be oblivious to the fact that they're

anabolic," he said. "It's conceivable that a player could be oblivious to the fact that they're

## CROSSWORD



Solution to Puzzle of Aug. 19

**GOLDEN HOTEL** LOMBARDO  
**ENERGY** BARBOSA  
**LITGOV** OREO NERO  
**DOOMED** SPY BEND  
**END** MASKS  
**ABS** TOTEN MORT  
**DEI** HORN IMBEAN  
**MANDELLA** OFFENSE  
**INBED** BRIE RITA  
**TOSCA** TERRI MEL  
**EMBER** END  
**STOIA** ARM STEEPS  
**ERGS** TRUE HADU  
**AIRE** HODS ELIZA  
**WEED** WATAT WSTON

**ACROSS**  
1. Tombstone name, 2. Carpenter's tool, 3. Waits, 4. Perplexed, 5. Bibliophile abbr., 6. Like some bookstores, 7. Pursued pure partners?, 8. Kind of couple, 9. Bolger co-star of 1938, 10. Shoe part, 11. Royal, 12. 30's autodrom.  
**DOWN**  
1. Appeal (for) NBC prog. since 1975, 2. Longed for fog to roll in?, 3. Without purpose, 4. Pecked at, 5. Place for a dinette set, 6. No more spectator, 7. They have shrubs, 8. Grandpa's feature, 9. "Star Wars" princess, 10. Carhop's load, 11. Closed, 12. Rams' me-ams, 13. Your highness.  
**INTERNATIONAL FUNDS LISTING**  
Track the performance of over 2,400 international funds, every day, on the IHT site on the World Wide Web.  
... <http://www.iht.com>



Competitors running in the decathlon 100 meters in the European athletics championships on Wednesday. (Michael Prokes/The Associated Press)

## Christie's Heirs Dominate in Europe

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BUDAPEST — Darren Campbell and Dwan Chambers finished first and second in the 100 meters final Wednesday at the European track and field championships, continuing the British dominance of the event.

Linford Christie, who has retired, was the reigning champion and won the event three times.

Campbell, who is 25 years old, won in 10.04 seconds. Chambers, 20, was second, at 10.10. Haralampos Papadis of Greece was third, at 10.17. A third-Briton, Marion Devonish, was fifth.

Stefano Tilli of Italy finished fourth. Tilli had been disqualified Tuesday after abusing a referee who did not let him run a lap of honor after his qualifying heat. Tilli was reinstated after apologizing.

Christine Arron of France set a European record of 10.73 seconds to win the women's 100 meters.

Irina Privalova of Russia made a flying start. But Aron caught Privalova in the last 20 meters and stripped the Russian of the title and the European record. Privalova's record was 10.77, set in 1994.

Privalova clocked 10.83 to win the silver in her fastest race this year. Ekaterini Thanou of Greece won the bronze in 10.87 despite a slow

start and set a national record.

The only woman to run faster this year is the American star Marion Jones.

Sonia O'Sullivan of Ireland won the women's 10,000 meters with a powerful finish in the last 200 meters.

O'Sullivan finished in 31 minutes, 29.33 seconds to beat Fernanda Ribeiro of Portugal, the Olympic champion,

who took the silver in 31:32.42. Lidia Simon of Romania was third in 31:32.64.

The host dominated the hammer throw. Tibor Gecsek of Hungary won with a throw of 82.87 meters, and a compatriot, Balazs Kiss, threw 81.26 meters to finish second.

Karsten Kob of Germany was third with 80.13 meters.

Stephane Diagana of France, the world champion, tripped over a hurdle and failed to qualify for the final of the men's 400-meter hurdles.

• In Dakar, Senegal, on Wednesday, Sani Ogunkoya of Nigeria won the 100 meters at 10.94 seconds. Franck Fredericks of Namibia was second in 10.97. (AP, AFP)

### Mitchell Positive Twice

The second part of sprinter Dennis Mitchell's urine sample tested positive for testosterone, the International Amateur Athletic Federation confirmed Wednesday. The Associated Press reported from Budapest.

The sample was taken at an out-of-competition test April 1 in Florida. Mitchell, the 100 meters bronze medalist at the 1992 Olympic, will be banned for two years unless he wins an appeal before the doping board of USA Track & Field.

Tanja Damase celebrating her winning javelin throw. (Michael Prokes/The Associated Press)

## SCOREBOARD

### BASEBALL

#### MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

#### EAST DIVISION

#### WEST DIVISION

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### EAST DIVISION

#### WEST DIVISION

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

#### TUESDAY LINEUPS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

#### WEST DIVISION

#### EAST DIVISION

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

#### EAST DIVISION

#### WEST DIVISION

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#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

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## SPORTS

## Bosox Sweep Twin Bill as Top Reliever Foils Texas

*The Associated Press*

The Boston Red Sox gained ground in their furlough chase of the New York Yankees and in their more probable quest to stay ahead of the Baltimore Orioles, sweeping the Texas Rangers in a double header at Fenway Park.

Mo Vaughn homered to break a seven-inning tie as the Red Sox won the second game on Tuesday, 5-4.

In the first game, Pedro Martinez (16-10) took a three-hitter into the ninth in

**AL ROUNDUP**

ning as Boston won, 4-1. Martinez struck out 10 and walked one in 8 2/3 innings.

Tom Gordon saved both games, giving him 36 saves this season and 33 straight.

The Red Sox are 1 1/2 games behind the Yankees in the AL East and seven ahead of the Orioles in the race for the league's wild-card playoff berth.

**Yankees 3, Royals 2** After Mariano Rivera failed to hold a lead in the ninth, Chad Curtis snapped an 0-for-15 skid with a run-scoring single in the 13th as New York won in Kansas City.

New York (92-30) swept the season series, 10-0, outscoring the Royals, 77-21. It was the first time in a non-strike year that the Yankees had blanked an AL opponent for an entire season series.

The Yankees have won 12 of their last 13 games. Joe Borowski pitched two innings and got his first victory since May 1997.

**Orioles 7, Twins 1** In Baltimore, Eric Davis had his fourth two-homer game of the season and drove in four runs as the Orioles improved to 29-8 since the All-Star break.

Davis, who sat out Monday night's game after having his 30-game hitting streak ended on Sunday in Cleveland, hit a solo shot in the first inning and gave the Orioles a 5-1 lead in the seventh with a three-run blast, his 24th homer of the year.

Sidney Ponson (7-6) allowed one run and seven hits in six innings to improve to 6-0 in nine starts since June 26.

**Tigers 7, Mariners 6** Bobby Higginson hit a grand slam in the sixth to give Detroit a victory in Seattle.

Ken Griffey, the American League home-run leader with 42, was 1-for-5 with two runs batted in. He struck out in the eighth with runners on second and third and has hit just one homer in his last 63 at-bats.

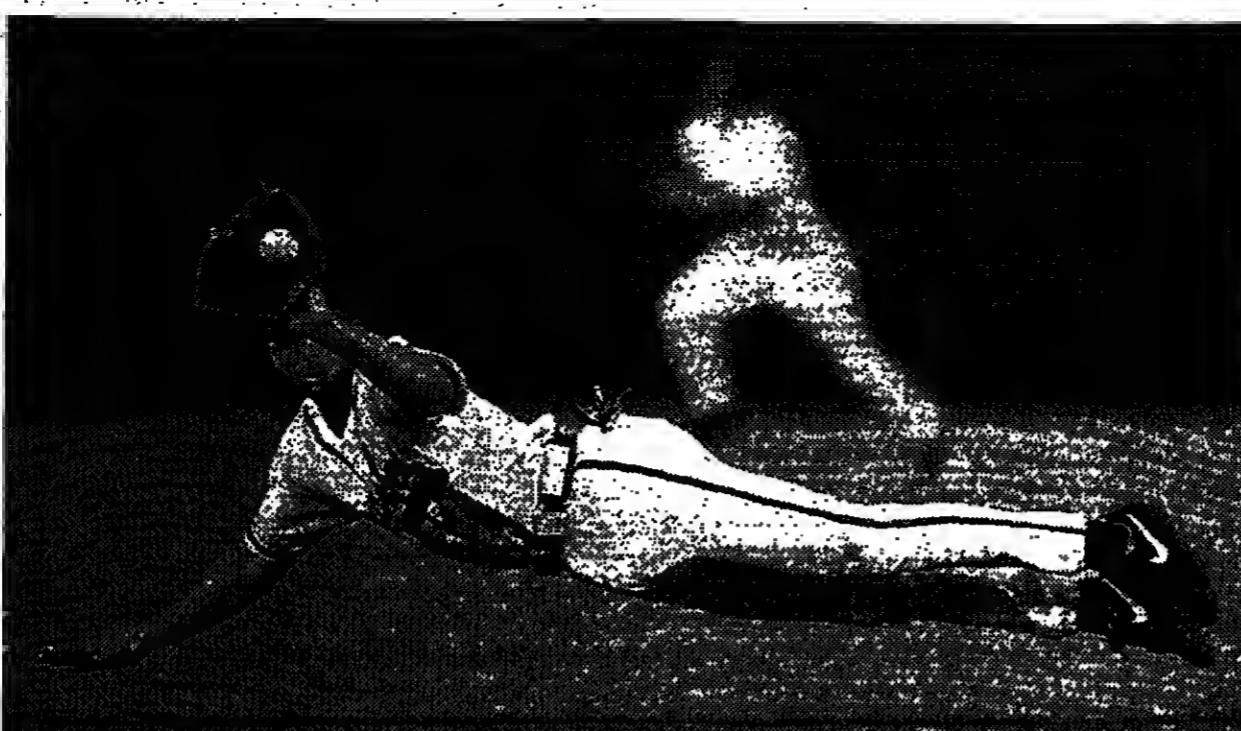
Alex Rodriguez went 5-for-5 with two doubles.

**White Sox 4, Angels 3** Albert Belle tied the game with a solo homer in the sixth at Anaheim, then doubled home a pair of runs in the seventh. Despite the loss, Anaheim opened a 1 1/2-game lead in the AL West over second-place Texas.

Belle's homer was his 37th. He has hit 19 homers in his last 38 games.

**Indians 4, Devil Rays 2** In Cleveland, Dwight Gooden dazzled Tampa Bay, the team from his home town, allowing one run and eight hits in six innings. Mike Jackson pitched the ninth for his 31st save.

**Athletics 10, Blue Jays 5** Scott Spiezio and Matt Stairs each homered twice and drove in four runs as Oakland beat visiting Toronto.



John Keatyn/Reuters  
Walt Weiss, the Atlanta shortstop, diving for a grounder hit by Brent Mayne, as the Braves beat the Giants, 8-4.

## McGwire and Sosa Hitless as Cubs Win

*The Associated Press*

Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa combined to go 0-for-9 and struck out three times each as the Cubs beat the St. Louis Cardinals in Chicago.

The pair remained stuck on 47 homers, 14 short of Roger Maris's record.

"I just have to say that not every day am I going to come over here and hit a

**NL ROUNDUP**

home run," Sosa said. "I hit one today, but it was foul. I wish it had stayed fair. It doesn't count."

"But that's what the fans come to the park to see — Mark McGwire and myself," he added. "Every time we go out there, they are standing and waiting for something."

Scott Servais, a catcher hitting .200, drove in three runs — all on infield grounders — as the Cubs won, 4-1, Tuesday.

With runners at the corners and one out in the ninth, Rod Beck came on and struck out both McGwire and Ray Lankford for his 37th save as the crowd went wild.

**Braves 8, Giants 4** In Atlanta, Greg Maddux became the 94th pitcher in major-league history to win 200 games,

pitching seven strong innings as the Braves beat visiting San Francisco.

Maddux (16-6) improved his career record to 200-114. He is 105-39 during six seasons in Atlanta. He lowered his major league-leading earned run average to 1.65.

The 32-year-old gave up five hits, equaled a season high with three walks and threw a wild pitch that allowed a run to score.

The Braves had nine hits — all doubles. Gerald Williams, Danny Bautista and Walt Weiss each produced a pair of two-base hits, and the catcher Eddie Perez sealed the victory in the seventh with a three-run double.

**Mets 4, Rockies 3** Matt 5, Racine 3

Al Leiter (12-4) shut down Colorado for eight innings in the opener and Mike Piazza hit a go-ahead, three-run double in the second game as New York swept visiting Colorado in a doubleheader.

New York has swept four of five doubleheaders this year.

Edgardo Alfonzo, Todd Hundley, John Olerud and Brian McKee homered in the opener for the Mets, who because of rainouts are playing seven games in a four-day span.

**Padres 7, Marlins 5** Greg Vaughn became the fourth player to reach 40 homers this season as San Diego won in

Miami. Quilvio Veras broke a 5-5 tie when he scored on Mike Redmond's passed ball in the eighth. Florida had rallied from a 5-0 deficit.

**Pirates 6, Dodgers 4** Freddy Garcia hit his fifth homer in seven games, a two-run, go-ahead drive in the sixth, as Pittsburgh beat visiting Los Angeles.

Jason Schmidt (10-9) survived three homers to win his second in a row since losing eight straight, allowing four runs and 10 hits in seven-plus innings.

**Astros 8, Phillies 2** Jeff Bagwell was 3-for-5 with five runs batted in and Craig Biggio went 3-for-4 with two runs scored as Houston won in Philadelphia.

**Braves 8, Reds 4** Jeromy Burnitz hit his career-high 28th homer for a 4-1 lead in the sixth and Bobby Hughes added a two-run shot as Milwaukee beat visiting Cincinnati.

**Expos 7, Diamondbacks 1** Brad Fullmer had his first two-homer game and a fellow rookie, Javier Vazquez, won for the first time in eight starts since July 3 as Montreal won in Phoenix to stop a seven-game losing streak.

## A Little Male Bonding As Sluggers Touch Base

### What Do McGwire and Sosa Talk About?

**By Ira Berkow***New York Times Service*

**C**HICAGO — When Sammy Sosa pays a visit to Mark McGwire on first base, do the two men — the talk of the baseball world, and beyond — talk about the gross national product, matters of the heart, or where they stand in relation to Roger Maris?

McGwire, the Cardinals' first baseman, was asked this on Tuesday before the first game of the two-game series between his team and Sosa's Cubs in Wrigley Field, a series in which like the cootes between Alydian and Affirmed, or Ali and Frazier, they are dead even going into the homestretch. McGwire and Sosa had hit 47 homers each, and, if you're counting, it's a bunch of fingers and toes away from Maris's single-season record of 61.

"We talk about things other than baseball," McGwire said. Then, with a wink, he added that they had made a pact to "keep it to ourselves."

The sluggers meet for a brief encounter now — and as they did two weekends ago in St. Louis — and then go their separate and dramatic ways. The conversation of McGwire, the red-head from the California suburbs, and Sosa, the Cubs' right fielder from the Dominican Republic, interests others beyond the growing hordes of reporters covering this story.

"Sammy doesn't speak great English," said Mark Grace, the Cubs' first baseman, "and I don't think Mark speaks great Spanish, so I'm not sure of the extent of their conversation. It just might be: 'Hi, Mac.' 'Hi, Sammy.'"

Ron Gant, the Cardinals' outfielder, said, "They probably talk about anything but the record. I think they hear enough about that."

When Sosa was asked, he said, "We say that we're going to retire together." Then he laughed, sticking, obviously, to the pact.

Sosa likes to say that he is pulling for McGwire to break the record, and for the Cubs to reach post-season play. "I'm not thinking about chasing anything," he said Tuesday. "Just get in the playoffs." But he admits to taking great

pleasure in all the attention surrounding this home-run business.

"It's like a gift to me," he said. He has spoken often about the mean circumstances in which he grew up in the little town of San Pedro de Macoris, where he shined shoes and picked oranges to help his widowed mother put food on the table. "I'm happy to go do my job and everyone go crazy. I love it. Oh, what a country!"

And he does keep an eye on the competition, watching sports shows on

**"It's like a gift to me. I'm happy to go do my job and everyone go crazy. I love it. Oh, what a country!"**

television to keep abreast, like most fans, of the McGwire doings.

"Sometimes I see that he is trying too hard to hit a home run," Sosa said. "Sometimes I wish he would relax more at the plate."

For his part, McGwire seeks to ease the pressure on himself by saying that so much goes into breaking the record — from staying healthy to getting pitchers out to walk you — that it may be beyond the hitter himself. "A real accomplishment is hitting 50 homers in a season," he said. "Only 16 players have ever done that."

Yes, yes, of course, but, Mark, if you did hit a 62d homer this season? And so the questions go.

"What would you do with the ball?" he was asked.

"Give it to the Hall of Fame," he said.

"And what would you pay for it?"

"In dollars? Nothing. But I would give bats, balls, a cap, a jockstrap, some underwear — the usual." And a smile appeared within his red mustache and goatee.

As he spoke, one observed the pectoral forearms of the man, forearms that would have made Popeye envious, and would have intrigued Olive Oyl.

"Genetics," he said. "My father is a big man. He was a boxer."

As for hitting home runs, he said that no one really tries to hit homers. "You see the ball, you try to center it to the bat — and you run around the bases," he said.

Sounds easy. Why more batters don't do it, then, is a mystery.

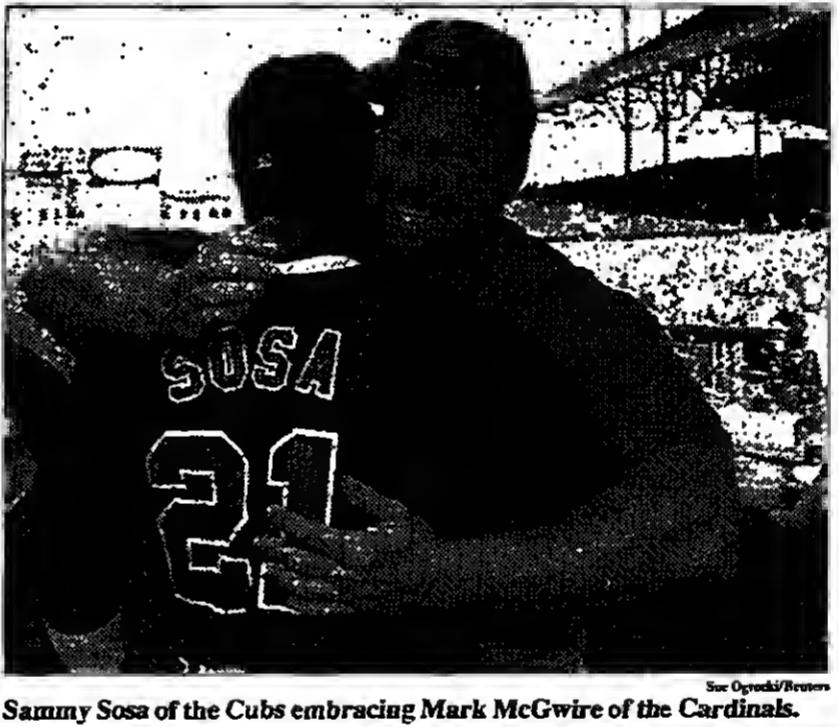
After Sosa took batting practice before Tuesday night's game, he looked to the Cardinal side of the field, and saw the team doing stretching exercises. He made a beeline for McGwire, who was twisting on the ground. A phalanx of reporters and cameramen followed Sosa.

"Get away! Get away!" McGwire shouted, laughing.

Then he got up, and he and Sosa hogged. And then they parted. It seemed that neither had time to whisper any kind of sweet nothing in the other's ear.

Watching nearby was Dan Radison, the Cubs' first-base coach, who has had the best opportunity to eavesdrop on Sosa and McGwire.

"I couldn't quite catch what they were saying," he said. "It can get noisy in the ball park."



Sammy Sosa of the Cubs embracing Mark McGwire of the Cardinals.

## Browns Bidders Make Pitches

*The Associated Press*

ATLANTA — Seven potential ownership groups for the expansion Cleveland Browns began making their presentations before National Football League owners Wednesday, with the first candidate saying he believed his group met all the requirements "subject to price."

Bart Wolstein, 71, a suburban Cleveland real estate developer whose net worth is estimated at \$200 million to \$300 million, made a 30-minutes sales pitch. He was joined by businessman Alan Spitzer, who would be a minority owner; former Carolina Panthers general manager Mike McCormack, who would be GM, and Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown, who would be a consultant with the team.

The owner of the team, which begins play next season, will likely be chosen in September.

Jeremy Jacobs, owner of the Boston Bruins of the National Hockey League, was the latest addition to the potential ownership groups.

The other known candidates are businessman/banker Alfred Lerner, Cleveland Indians owner Richard Jacobs (no relation to Jeremy Jacobs); New York real estate developer Howard Milstein; Cleveland-area toy retailer Thomas Murdoch; and Cleveland-area lawyer Larry Dolan and his brother Charles Dolan, chairman of Cablevision Systems.

The owners were meeting at a motel near the Atlanta airport.

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## CALVIN AND HOBBES



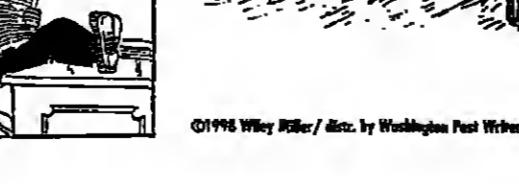
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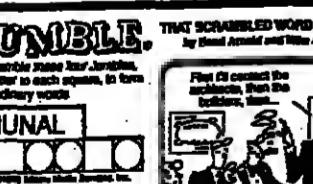
## DENNIS THE MENACE



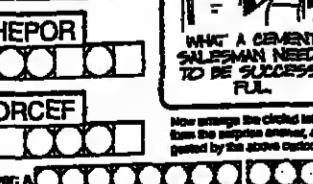
## PEANUTS



## JUMBLE



## ARCTT



## PHEPOR

## ART BUCHWALD

### Lincoln's Other Speech

MARTHA'S VINE-YARD, Massachusetts — There were two Gettysburg addresses. Here's the one Lincoln never delivered.

"Four score and seven grand juries ago Ken Starr brought forth on this country a special prosecution dedicated to the proposition that all presidential sexual activity had to be accounted for either by tapping the participants or testing by DNA."

"We are now engaged in a great political war in which the private lives of our public figures are being exposed to the point that we are all being asked to lie for our country."

"I take full responsibility in denying that I had a sexual affair in the Black Dog Café with a Yankee intern in the Massachusetts Infantry Division."

"It was a mistake, and I only did it to protect the nation and the men and women who gave their lives at Gettysburg."



"The world will little notice nor long remember what we say here — except for the New York Post, New York Daily News, National Enquirer, 'Hard Copy,' Gerald Rivera, Bob Novak, Jim Carville, 'Meet the Press,' Sam Donaldson, Barbara Walters, Diane Sawyer, Alan Dershowitz, George Stephanopoulos and Larry King."

"But I can never forget what the FBI said we did here."

"It is for us, the living, to dedicate ourselves to eliminating consensual sex from the White House and forget my hugging of interns on the White House lawn. It is for other reasons than it could lead to high crimes and misdemeanors that might be witnessed by the Secret Service, who up until now have had the full measure of my devotion."

"This nation, under God, shall have a new birth of millions, and hanky panky of the people, and hanky panky by the people, and hanky panky for the people shall disappear from the face of the earth — or at least from the White House for the rest of my term of office."

### Remarks on Diana Spark Outrage

Agence France-Presse

LONDON — Two Sunday school teachers have created a stir by telling their pupils that Diana, Princess of Wales, had "gone to hell" after her death nearly a year ago.

Jeffrey Jones and Chris Mansfield told their class of 20 children aged from 5 to 13 in Walsall, West Midlands, that the princess had led an "immoral lifestyle," had not repented of her sins before dying in a car accident last Aug. 31 in Paris, and thus could not have gone to heaven.

Parents and religious figures were immediately up in arms. "I was absolutely horrified. How could they tell Darryl that the woman he thought was a star in heaven was actually in hell," said the mother of a child who went home in tears.

The Archdeacon of Aston, the Venerable John Barton, branded the preaching "barmy and perverted theology."

But the two teachers stuck to their views, saying they were only teaching the Bible.

## Castaneda's Legacy: As Mysterious as the Man

By Peter Applebome  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Once he began publishing his best-selling accounts of his purported adventures with a Mexican shaman 30 years ago, Carlos Castaneda's life and work played out in a wispy blur of mystery and artful deceit.

Now, four months after he died and two months after the death was made public, a probate court in Los Angeles is sifting through competing claims on the estate of the author whose works helped define the 1960s and usher in the New Age movement.

His followers say he left the earth with the same elegant, willful mystery that characterized his life. The man he used to call his son says Castaneda died while a virtual prisoner of cultlike followers who controlled his last days and his estate.

Given that Castaneda's literary credibility, marital history, place of birth, circumstances of death and almost everything else about his life are in dispute, the competing claims — including questions about the authenticity of his will and his competence to sign it — are not surprising. But they are providing a nasty coda to the life of a man whose books, which sold 8 million copies in 17 languages, are viewed as fact, metaphor or hoax.

Admirers say the areas of dispute, most famously whether the purported shaman and *brujo* (witch) Don Juan Matus ever existed, are peripheral to the real issues Castaneda explored in his books.

"Carlos knew exactly what was true and what was not true," said Angela Panaro, of Cleargreen Inc., the group that marketed Castaneda's teachings and seminars near the end of his life. "But the thing that's missing when people talk about Carlos is not whether Don Juan lived or not, or who lived in what house. It's about becoming a voyager of awareness, about the 600 locations in the luminous egg of man where the assemblage point can shift, about the

process of depersonalization he taught."

The luminous egg, assemblage point and processes of depersonalization are all part of the practice of *Tenagoya*, a blend of meditation and movement exercises that Castaneda taught in his final years as a way for people to break through the limitations of ordinary consciousness. Skeptics say they sum up a career characterized, in the end, by literate New Age numbo jumbo and artful deception.

Even Margaret Runyan Castaneda, who had been married to him, while admiring Castaneda and his work, says she doubts Don Juan ever existed and thinks his name came from Mateus, the bubbly Portuguese wine the couple used to drink.

Carlos Castaneda rocketed from obscure anthropology graduate student at the University of California at Los Angeles to instant, if elusive, celebrity in 1968 with the publication of "The Teachings of Don Juan: A Yaqui Way of Knowledge," a vivid account of the spiritual and pharmacological adventures he had with a white-haired Yaqui Indian *nagual* or shaman, Don Juan Matus. He said he met Don Juan at a Greyhound bus station in Nogales, Arizona, in the summer of 1966 when Castaneda was doing research on medicinal plants used by Indians of the Southwest.

In that book's sequel, "A Separate Reality," and eight others, he described his apprenticeship to Don Juan and a spiritual journey in which he saw giant insects, learned to fly and grew a beak as part of a process of breaking the hold of ordinary perception.

Admirers say his work as a gripping spiritual quest in the tradition of Aldous Huxley's "Doors of Perception." Skeptics wondered how much was true.

But despite Castaneda's obsessive pursuit of total anonymity — he refused to be photographed or tape recorded and almost never gave interviews — he won international fame, and the books continued to sell well after his vogue passed.



Psychology Today  
A portrait of Carlos Castaneda drawn by Richard Oden in 1972, which later was partially erased by the teacher and writer.

In recent years, he surfaced with a new vision, the teaching of *Tenagoya*, which is described on the Cleargreen Web site as "the modernized version of some movements called magical passes developed by Indian shamans who lived in Mexico in times prior to the Spanish conquest." He even made public appearances and spoke at seminars promoting the work.

Unknown to customers who turned out for the seminars — which cost \$600 and more — Castaneda was dying of cancer while describing his route to vibrant good health.

Indeed, although only his inner circle knew about it for two months, he died on April 27 at his home in Westwood, a well-to-do section of Los Angeles, where he lived for many years with some of the self-described witches, stalkers, dreamers and spiritual seekers who shared his work.

At a brief hearing in probate court in Los Angeles last week, the man whom Castaneda had for many years called his son challenged the will Castaneda apparently signed four days before his death. The judge set a hearing date of Oct. 15 for the case.

C. J. Castaneda, also known as

Adrian Vashon — whose birth certificate cites Carlos Castaneda as his father, although another man was actually his father — says Cleargreen became a cultlike group that came to control Castaneda's life.

"Those people latched onto him,

stuck their claws in him and rode him for all he was worth," said C. J. Castaneda, who operates two small coffee shops in suburban Atlanta and calls himself a powerful *brujo*. "I don't believe the will has

my father's signature, and I don't believe he was competent to sign it three days before he died."

Deborah Drooz, Carlos Castaneda's lawyer and executor of his estate, said she witnessed the signing with another lawyer and a notary public. She said that Castaneda was completely lucid when he signed the will and that C. J. Castaneda had no claims. She denied that Carlos Castaneda's followers were anything akin to a cult and said C. J. Castaneda's claim did not constitute a serious legal challenge.

"No one, none, of Dr. Castaneda's followers participated in the writing of the will," she said. "And one thing that was very clear for years was that Dr. Castaneda had not had a relationship with C. J. Castaneda, or Adrian Vashon, for years, and he was very clear he should not benefit from Dr. Castaneda's death."

Invariably described as an impeccable person who kept his affairs in perfect order, Castaneda apparently signed the will on April 23, and then died at 3 A. M. on April 27 of what his death certificate said was metabolic encephalopathy, a neurological breakdown that followed two weeks of liver failure and 10 months of cancer. The signature is partly obscured, and C. J. Castaneda and his mother, Margaret Castaneda, say it does not look like Castaneda's signature.

He was cremated within hours of his death. His death was kept secret for more than two months until word leaked out and was confirmed by his representatives, who said the death was kept quiet in keeping with Castaneda's lifelong pursuit of privacy.

His will cited assets worth about \$1 million, a modest figure for an author who sold so well and apparently lived simply. All his assets were given to the Eagle's Trust, set up at the same time as the will. It is not clear how much in additional assets had already been placed in the trust, but a London newspaper recently estimated his estate at \$20 million.

## PEOPLE

IT must be some sort of plot. Is it possible that David Duchovny, star of television's "The X-Files," doesn't actually like the show? In an interview published on the BBC entertainment Web site, Duchovny said his initial impression was that the hit show was "silly." "I assumed there was no way it would last," he said. He added that he believed his character, Fox Mulder, is "clearly insane." "I'd love to be off the TV show," he was quoted as saying, "but because of my greed I have to give them another two years." Duchovny's manager, Melanie Greene, did not return several calls from The New York Times seeking comment.

Leonardo da Vinci's legend hardly needs furnishing, but a new book may add yet another credit to his résumé. "Leonardo da Vinci: The Origins of a Genius," by David Alan Brown, asserts that the young artist worked on Andrea del Verrocchio's "Tobias and the Angel," now at the National Gallery in London. He says he has strong evi-

dence of Leonardo's brush strokes on the figure of Tobias and on a dog and a fish. Brown, curator of Italian Renaissance painting at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, says "Tobias" would effectively be Leonardo's first painting. The book is to be published next month by Yale University Press.

A potted plant will be replaced by a 29,000-pound boulder at the grave of Erma Bombeck. The rock, which is 6 feet high and about 5 feet tall, was taken from the property of a neighbor in Arizona and delivered by truck to the Woodlawn Cemetery in Dayton, Ohio, the humor columnist's hometown. Bombeck's husband, Bill, said he "wanted a piece of Phoenix" at his wife's grave to commemorate the 25 years they spent together in Arizona. Bombeck died in 1996 after a kidney transplant. She was 69.

Farrah Fawcett's former boyfriend has been convicted of beating the actress during a fight in which he slammed her

head to the ground and choked her. A jury in Santa Monica, California, found James Orr guilty on one count of misdemeanor battery. The writer, director and producer was acquitted of a second battery charge. He faces up to a year in jail at his sentencing in October, but his lawyer said he planned to appeal. Orr was charged with beating the actress in his driveway Jan. 23 after an argument at a restaurant. Fawcett admitted smashing his windows with a baseball bat and attacking him with a bar stool.

Prince Bernhard, the father of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, has undergone successful surgery to repair a partially detached retina in his left eye. The surgery was performed Tuesday at a hospital in Utrecht. Bernhard, 87, returned home the same day. Dutch media reported that the prince had suffered vision problems while on vacation and returned to the Netherlands for the surgery.

Mother Maybelle Carter's guitar is

headed to the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville. "In many ways, it's the guitar that defined country music," said Charles Wolfe, a professor at Middle Tennessee State University who studies the Carter family. Maybelle Carter, who died in 1978, bought the Gibson in 1928 for \$500. By using such a high-quality instrument, she set a new standard, Wolfe said.

Mykelti Williamson, who played Tom Hanks' pal Bubba in "Forrest Gump," is on trial for attempted manslaughter for allegedly attacking a friend of his former wife. Williamson, 41, is accused of slashing Leroy Edwards with a knife on Jan. 5. On the first day of testimony, Williamson's former wife, Cheryl Chisholm, testified that the actor had become angry trying to make arrangements with her to pick up their daughter. The actor left several threatening messages, Chisholm said. When she didn't respond to the messages, Williamson allegedly went to her home and attacked Edwards.



THE PACK IS BACK — The cast for "The Rat Pack," a television movie depicting the high-living clique that included Joey Bishop, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Peter Lawford and Frank Sinatra, from left: Bobby Slayton, Joe Mantegna, Don Cheadle, Angus Macfadyen and Ray Liotta.



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